



SPORTS  
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FOLLOWING LOSS TO WINONA

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COOK OF THE WEEK  
STOREYS LOVE TO  
USE FAMILY RECIPES

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# THE NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

Established 1881 — Oldest Business Institution in Neshoba County Philadelphia, Mississippi Wednesday, September 22, 2021 140th Year No. 38 \*\*\$1.00

## Alderman delinquent on taxes

By SCOTT HAWKINS  
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Ward 4 Alderman Shaun Seales says he intends to pay delinquent property taxes on parcels of land he owns in the city that were sold at auction last month.

“My name is on only one or two by myself,” Seales said on Monday. “I’ve got several partners that own properties. I’m going to pay it this week

or so. ... We have a project we are doing.”

The parcels owned by Seales were on the delinquent tax sale rolls published in *The Neshoba Democrat* in August. Seales owes about \$2,000 in delinquent property taxes, records show.

Seales, a Democrat, has gone on record in support of a city tax hike in 2022, saying he believes raising taxes is important for Philadelphia’s

future. (See story, Page 3A.)

The county confirmed Seales had not paid the property taxes and the parcels were sold for back taxes in an online auction. Neshoba County collects both city and county taxes.

“In our office, we collect delinquent taxes, so the 2020s went to a tax sale at the end of August that Mike Lewis (Neshoba County tax assessor/collector) conducts,” said

Neshoba County Chancery Clerk Guy Nowell. “The 2020 taxes are now due in to our office at the Chancery Clerk’s Office.”

Seales has a couple of years to pay the back taxes to the investment company that paid the back taxes, Nowell said, adding the investors gain no rights to the property unless the taxes remain unpaid for three years.

“Most of these folks don’t

lose their interest in their property,” Nowell said.

Investors often pay off such delinquent properties for the price of the back taxes to collect the payment on the back taxes with interest from property owners.

Seales said he is involved in several properties including a subdivision with a developer and they plan to pay off the taxes soon, noting the delayed payment was not because he

could not afford to pay the taxes.

Seales was supporting a proposed 1-mill city tax hike along with Ward 1 Alderman Justin Clearman and Ward 3 Alderman James Tatum at a public hearing last week.

The mayor and board were to have voted on the tax increase Tuesday night after the Democrat went to press. (See [neshobademocrat.com](http://neshobademocrat.com) for an update.)



Photo by COLEMAN EAKES

Portable flashing signs have been brought in along a five-mile stretch of Highway 19 south in response to two fatal crashes in the last week. The signs warn motorists of the 45 m.p.h. speed limit and that the stretch of roadway is a no-passing zone.

## Law enforcement presence beefed up on 19

By DUNCAN DENT  
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Drivers are being warned to slow down and be careful along a five-mile construction zone on Highway 19 south after two fatal crashes last week.

“Highway 19 South of Philadelphia has become a deadly highway in the past few weeks,” said Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark in a social media post on Sunday.

Portable flashing signs warning the stretch is a no-passing zone and the speed limit is 45 mph were moved in by MDOT last week.

Clark said his department has increased traffic patrols in the area. State Troopers have also been more noticeable on the stretch of roadway.

“I have deputies enforcing traffic violations on Highway 19 in and around the work zones,” Clark said. “Zero tolerance from this point forward on this roadway. My message is to please drive safe and guard against distracted driving.

Pullover to text or to admire the road construction equipment working.”

Clark said the Mississippi Highway Patrol and MDOT “are working diligently to help make this highway safer.”

The flashing signs start at the top of Posey Hill and continue south to Tucker. The highway is being four-laned and several bridges are being replaced south of Tucker.

There have been six fatal wrecks on Highway 19 between Philadelphia and House this year.

## PHILADELPHIA Last city audit was 5 years ago

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY  
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The city of Philadelphia hasn’t had a formal audit in five years, but the mayor said he was handed a 2017 audit on Monday after *The Neshoba Democrat* pressed the issue at a budget hearing last week.

The latest audit available to the public shows the city of Philadelphia ended fiscal 2016 with a \$264,963 surplus. At the time, it was the third surplus reported since the Mayor and Board of Aldermen doubled taxes in 2014 to help pay for new parks.

Tristan Rowell of Rea, Shaw, Giffin & Stuart, LLP, Certified Public Accountants told officials in September 2017 when the 2016 audit was delivered that “overall, the big picture is the city seems to be in good shape.”

The city of Philadelphia has not completed audits for Fiscal 2018, 2019 or 2020, the mayor confirmed.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen was expected to consider hiring a new auditing firm during Tuesday night’s meeting to get caught up. The audits are required by law.

At the same meeting, aldermen were expected to approved the 2022 budget that includes a 1-mill tax increase to fund pay raises. (See story, Page 3A.)

The Fiscal 2020 audit is not due until Sept. 30.

Young said the problems started when the city changed firms due to a retirement.

After the new firm was unable to get the 2017 audit on time, the city switched to another firm. Delays continued and the city got further behind.

The city was notified Monday that the firm it had been using as of late was not going to be able

See **AUDIT**, page 2A

### ‘JACK VS. JILL’ AND ‘SUPER SCARY’

## Arts Council ready for 2 upcoming plays

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS  
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The Philadelphia Neshoba County Arts Council will present two comedy-themed plays from Sept. 30 through Oct. 3.

One play is titled “Jack vs. Jill” and the other is titled “Super Scary.”

“We all know the ending to the nursery rhyme, Jack & Jill. But is that the way it really happened?” said Kinsey Goldman president of PNC Arts Council. “This is the court case that you, the audience, will get to help decide. Who’s guilty, Jack or Jill?”

“Super Scary” is a comedy of Halloween-themed stories with a bit of a twist in that two first-time directors will helm

the productions.

“This is our third-year mentor directors’ program, which means it is people who have never directed students, adults or whoever,” Goldman said.

The two directors are Alisha Savell and Posey Palmer who have both been in productions with the PNC Arts Council in past years.

Savell of Philadelphia is in school at Meridian Community College. Palmer is a junior at Neshoba Central High School and hopes to get her degree in Creative Arts and Theater at New York University. Kinsey Goldman is the mentor director of the plays and is teaching Savell and Palmer about production theater.

The plays, which each last approximately 30 minutes will be presented at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. on both Sept. 30 and Oct. 2 and again at 6 p.m. on Oct. 3 at the Northside Park Senior Citizens Center at 100 Burt Drive in Philadelphia.

Evening performance tickets, available at the Depot, are \$15 for non-members and \$10 for members of the PNC Arts Council. Afternoon performances tickets are \$10 for non-members and \$5 for members.

“For the evening performances, we are doing a full meal,” Goldman said.

Tickets also will be available at the door of the Senior Center on the day of the performances. Seating is limited, and people are encouraged to buy tickets in advance.



Alisha Savell and Posey Palmer prepare for rehearsal.





# SUBMIT YOUR NEWS

## Engagements & Weddings

**There is no charge** for engagement and wedding announcements. Submit them to [weddings@neshobademocrat.com](mailto:weddings@neshobademocrat.com).

The deadline for submitting engagements and weddings is at noon on Friday before the Wednesday publication.

Every effort will be made to run the announcement on the date requested, but space requirements and time sometimes prohibit it.

Wedding copy must not exceed the equivalent of more than two 8 1/2 x 11 inch pages.

The Democrat reserves the right to edit articles to fit space requirements and style.

News of parties relating to engagements or weddings can be submitted.

## Obituary policy

The Democrat publishes a standard format obituary **at no charge**.

The standard obituary includes: service, burial and funeral home details, date of death, age, place of residence, a sentence or two of personal information (no opinionated comments) detailing occupation, education, church affiliation, military service, listing spouse or children, immediate survivors (list only spouses, children, siblings, number of grandchildren, number of nieces and nephews) and pallbearers. In-laws, aunts, uncles, friends and honorary pallbearers are not included in the free listing. The standard obituary may be up to 150 words in length.

To list extended family and more details, there is a charge of \$125 for up to 300 words total; \$250 for up to 500 words total; \$500 up to 1,200 words total. Photos may be included for an additional charge of \$25.

Obituaries must be submitted electronically by funeral homes to [obituaries@neshobademocrat.com](mailto:obituaries@neshobademocrat.com) no later than Tuesday at noon for publication in Wednesday's edition. Any obituary not submitted electronically is subject to a \$25 charge.

## School and community news

The Democrat welcomes school and community news. Send to [news@neshobademocrat.com](mailto:news@neshobademocrat.com) or [neshobademocrat.com/submit](mailto:neshobademocrat.com/submit).

## Of Local Interest

Let us know about your events at least a week in advance. Send announcements to [local@neshobademocrat.com](mailto:local@neshobademocrat.com)

## Tips and breaking news

Let us know when you see news happening. Send tips to [tips@neshobademocrat.com](mailto:tips@neshobademocrat.com). News tips are encouraged and can be kept confidential.

## Sports

Headed to a sporting event with a camera or have sports news, contact Sports Editor Steve Swogetinsky: [sports@neshobademocrat.com](mailto:sports@neshobademocrat.com)

## Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor expressing your views and opinions (please limit them to 250 words or less) are welcome and encouraged: [neshobademocrat.com/submit](mailto:neshobademocrat.com/submit) or directly to Jim Prince at [jprince@neshobademocrat.com](mailto:jprince@neshobademocrat.com).

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**(USPS 377-160)**

The Neshoba Democrat is published every Wednesday by The Neshoba Democrat Publishing Co., Inc., 439 Beacon Street, Philadelphia, Miss., James E. Prince III, president. Subscriptions are \$36 per year in Neshoba and adjoining counties, \$40 in other Mississippi counties and \$43 for out of state. Single copy price is \$1. Periodicals postage paid at Philadelphia, MS.

The Democrat reserves the right to reject or edit any or all advertising. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Neshoba Democrat, P.O. Box 30, Philadelphia, MS 39350.



## Leake Academy Homecoming Court named

The Leake Academy student body recently elected the following young ladies as representatives for the 2021 Homecoming celebration to be held on Oct. 1, 2021, at Thaggard Field. Standing from left to right: Sophomore Maids Maddie Liggett and CC Cumberland; Freshman Maids Caroline Cheatham and Anna Young; Junior Maids Addy Lea Page

and Parker Woods. Seated from left to right: Senior Maids and candidates for Homecoming Queen Sydney Sisson, Meredith Adams, and Carlyn Vaughn. The presentation of the court and announcement of the homecoming queen will begin at halftime of the Rebels game against Madison St. Joseph. Kickoff is 7 p.m.

# 2 new COVID deaths reported in county

By JOHN LEE

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Neshoba County recorded 97 new COVID-19 cases and two new deaths in the past week, according to the Mississippi State Department of Health's Sept. 21 report.

Neshoba County has now recorded a total of 6,430 cases of COVID-19 and 201 deaths since the pandemic began in March 2020.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has reported 60 new positive cases of COVID-19 and one death in the past week as of Sept. 20, with the total number of positive cases for the Tribe standing at 2,440 with 123 deaths since the pandemic began in March 2020. Six new hospitalizations have been reported.

Neshoba County Schools have not reported case and quarantine numbers since

Sept. 10.

As of Monday, 27% of Neshoba County's population is fully vaccinated, according to MSDH, and 30% of the county's population had received one of the 16,436 total doses of COVID-19 vaccines administered in the county.

Vaccinations are being administered at Walgreens at 1002 W. Beacon Street in Philadelphia, according to the

MSDH.

Statewide, since the pandemic began in March 2020, 276,519 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been recorded by the MSDH along with 201,250 probable cases, totaling 477,769 cases. There have been 6,283 confirmed COVID-19 deaths, along with 3,048 probable deaths, totaling 9,331 deaths.

# Deputies arrest Ackerman man for stolen ATV

By DUNCAN DENT

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An Ackerman man faces felony charges in Neshoba County in relation to an ATV stolen earlier this month.

Edward Blake Paten, 22, address unavailable, Highway 15, Ackerman, faces grand larceny charges pending extradition here, said Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark.

Clark said Paten is a suspect in the theft of a green Honda ATV reported on Road 173 in Neshoba County on Sept. 10.

Clark said that Deputy Josh Jolly travelled to Choctaw County to interview Paten on Sunday concerning the ATV. During the interview July obtained the whereabouts of the stolen vehicle. It was recovered in



Edward Paten

Choctaw County, about 40 miles from where it was stolen in Neshoba County.

Clark said the owner has identified the vehicle and it has been returned to him.

"The victim has identified the vehicle," Clark said. "He was very thankful for the effort officer Jolly put into this investigation."

Clark said Jolly's work this weekend was another example of his deputies going the extra mile for a case.

Clark said he was not sure what charges, if any charges, Paten faced in Choctaw and said that they will extradite Paten when Choctaw authorities are done with him.

Choctaw County jail records show that Paten was brought into custody on Friday, Sept. 17.

# Tucker man killed in head-on collision on 19

By DUNCAN DENT

[news@neshobademocrat.com](mailto:news@neshobademocrat.com)

A Tucker man died in a second fatal wreck on Highway 19 last week.

Christopher "Ike" Chickaway, 56, died in the head-on collision Wednesday, Sept. 15, at about 9 a.m., the Mississippi Highway Patrol said.

Chickaway loved helping

others, cutting grass and fixing cars, his family said.

He was laid to rest on Sept. 18 in Holy Rosary Cemetery with Father Bob Goodyear officiating.

Preliminary MHP reports indicate that a 2004 Chevrolet Suburban driven by Chickaway was traveling north on Highway 19 while a 2005 Mitsubishi Endeavor driven by

Fletcher was traveling south.

The Chevrolet Suburban and Mitsubishi Endeavor collided head-on. Chickaway was pronounced dead on the scene.

Fletcher was transported to Jeff Anderson Hospital in Meridian. The crash is currently under investigation by the Mississippi Highway Patrol, spokesman Sgt. Jameka Moore said.

The accident happened in the same vicinity as a fatal crash last Tuesday that claimed a 21-year-old Philadelphia man. (See story, Page 7A.)

There have been five other fatal wrecks on Highway 19 this year between Philadelphia and House.

# Audit

Continued from page 1A

to complete the audit work due to personnel shortages, Young said.

"Here is where we are," Young said. "We were notified

they were not going to be able to finish. Monday was the first time where we had our stuff there, that they were not going to be able to complete it.

"We have already talked to a group that is capable by reputation and is going to help us get out of this backlog. We have got to get it done."



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Union High School Homecoming Court named

Union High School will hold its 2021 Homecoming festivities Friday, October 1, during the football game against Southeast Lauderdale. The following maids will be recognized and the new queen will be crowned during halftime. Front Row: Senior Maid Georgia Cooper, Senior Maid Madison Buckley, and Senior Maid Xan Tucker. Middle Row: Junior Maid Jailyn Stribling, Freshmen Maid Ally Milling, Freshmen Maid Erica Lay, Junior Maid Maddie Cook. Back Row: Sophomore Maid Lauryn Roebuck and Sophomore Maid Sydney Coward.

Alderman: Tax hike ups competitiveness

By SCOTT HAWKINS  
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Raising taxes will make Philadelphia more competitive with surrounding cities, Ward 1 Alderman Justin Clearman insisted last week during a public hearing on a proposed \$11 million 2022 budget that included a tax hike.

“I just believe for us being in a competitive marketplace with the rest of the towns that are within a 50-mile radius of here, that we need to step it up a little bit,” Clearman said of the proposed 1-mill tax increase during the hearing last Wednesday.

Aldermen were to have voted on a final budget Tuesday night after the Democrat had gone to press. (Check neshobademocrat.com for an update.)

City leaders proposed the tax hike to help fund unspecified pay raises for city employees. No citizens turned out for the hearing at City Hall.

The tax increase, Clearman said, is about more than just pay raises for city employees.

“I feel like it leverages ourselves to be more marketable as a city,” Clearman said of the tax increase proposal. “Everybody in this town complains about not having this, or this, or this. There are reasons

we don’t have them..... If the citizens want what the citizens keep coming to us saying they want to have then they need to just like we are going to have to as citizens, as taxpayers, invest in the city a little bit.”

Clearman, a Republican, said during the public hearing he did not like the way The Neshoba Democrat published a story on the proposed tax increase in last Wednesday’s edition at the top of the front page, saying the issue is about more than just pay raises for city employees.

Proponents of the tax increase like Clearman have said it is necessary for Philadelphia to remain competitive with surrounding municipalities such as Carthage, Union and Louisville.

The proposal would take the city’s millage rate from 19 mills to 20. One mill represents \$1 of tax on every \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Favoring the tax hike with Clearman were Ward 3 Alderman James Tatum and Ward 4 Alderman Shaun Seales, both Democrats.

Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton and Alderman-at-Large James Waltman, both Republicans, were against the tax hike.

Fulton has maintained he believes revenue last year was

strong enough not to require a tax increase.

“We finished strong with our revenues and sales tax,” Fulton said. “I don’t know if it will continue next year. I hope it does.”

Seales said he believed the tax increase is important for the city’s future.

“We have to get up to modern-day times,” Seales said. “We cannot stay back and we have got to make the city profitable for the people to afford the increase.”

He went on to say, “Do we want to raise taxes on anybody, no. But is it necessary, yes. As I told my constituents, we have to get up to modern times. We can always take it back down. But I think it is the thing to do.”

Seales is delinquent on property taxes in the city on parcels of land he owns that were sold at auction last month, records show. (See story, Page 1A.)

Of the \$10,960,350 in total revenue, \$1,530,000 will come from ad valorem taxes, an increase of \$366,800 when compared to the current budget.

City officials told the Democrat at the hearing they have not completed an audit since 2017 but are working on Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

County absorbing trash cost increase

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY  
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Neshoba County will be paying slightly more to dispose of garbage beginning Nov. 1, but residents won’t see an increase, officials said.

County crews pick up the garbage in Neshoba County and the garbage is dumped in a landfill owned by Waste Pro and located in Kemper County.

The new price is an increase of 3.48% or 56 cents per ton bumping the cost up to \$16.63 per ton. The new rate will be effective Nov. 1, the Board of Supervisors agreed on Monday.

“There is a provision in the contract for them to be able to move it based on the consumer price index,” said County Administrator Jeff Mayo.

In other matters in Monday’s meeting, supervisors:

- Approved an amended interlocal agreement with the Neshoba County Schools concerning resource officers. Supervisors also approved the removal of a Motorola Mobile Radio from the Sheriff’s inventory. They approved \$500 for pre-trial intervention in a pending case.
- Accepted bids for a used brush chipper from Vermeer of Jackson for \$35,498.
- Approved school bus turnarounds for the Neshoba County Schools for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Approved requisition authority for Joseph “Jay” Brown, new county director for the Department of Human

- Services.
- Approved the board schedule for the months of October, November and December.



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# Opinion

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THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

Truth, justice and progress, without fear or favor

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## EDITORIALS

### The corona info-coaster

Roller coasters are exhilarating, but for those who find them scary, the best part of the ride is getting off. Americans have been stuck on the coronavirus info-coaster for more than a year and see no end to the breathless vaccine advisories. Officialdom could alleviate some of the angst by simply standing clear and leaving the bedside manner to doctors.

President Biden has spent 2021 fighting the information controls, first promising the return of customary freedom by the Fourth of July only to darken September with threats against Americans who remain vaccine-free. “We’ve been patient, but our patience is wearing thin, and your refusal has cost all of us,” Mr. Biden growled recently.

Targeting as many as 100 million Americans, Mr. Biden ordered federal workers, plus businesses with 100 or more employees, to be vaxxed or tested weekly for the virus. Refuseniks face termination. So much for the sacrosanct principle of women’s health — “my body, my choice.” Even before the president’s command, though, most women and men alike had already shown up for the shot. The U.S. Centers for Disease and Prevention reports that 76.1 percent of U.S. adults — more than 210 million — have received at least one vaccine dose.

At the same time, a smaller majority — 60 percent — of respondents to an Axios/Ipsos poll support the president’s vaccine mandates for both federal employees and Americans working in the private sector; 39 percent oppose the mandates. To their credit, Americans are apparently more willing to take the shot themselves than watch Uncle Joe force others to do so.

Activists, progressives demand reversal of parliamentarian ruling against amnesty provision

Neither the president nor his advisers have adequately addressed the question that lingers over the vax-or-not-to-vax issue: What about natural immunity, the human body’s innate defense against disease, and its ability to fight pathogens by building additional defenses?

Asked recently whether individuals who have already recovered from COVID-19 should still be required to get the vaccine, White House chief medical adviser Dr. Anthony Fauci replied he could provide no “really firm answer.”

No, really? A large proportion of the nation falls into this category. National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins points out in a recent NIH blog that last year’s estimate of 20 million U.S. coronavirus infections was worthless: “A recent article published in Nature offers a more-comprehensive estimate that puts the true number of infections by the end of 2020 at more than 100 million.”

With recorded cases currently approaching 42 million, the actual number of infections — including symptom-free ones — could by now total multiples of the 100 million Mr. Biden has demanded must choose between jab and job. And 99 percent recover.

Most Americans are either already vaxxed, have natural immunity from catching the virus, or both. Mr. Biden should put the brakes on his coronavirus info-coaster, let doctors treat patients without government interference, and remedy his own ailing presidential performance.

— The Washington Times

## FLASHBACKS

**SEPTEMBER 26, 1941**  
Mrs. DeWitt Burkes and her son Winfred are digging the first silo in Beat 5. They are among the many dairy patrons in Neshoba County and are beginning to realize a real profit from milk.

Two former Philadelphia High School stars, J.T. “Blondie” Black and Lamar Blount, will hold key positions in the Mississippi State Maroons 1941 team, which open its ten-game schedule with Florida at State College on September 27.

**SEPTEMBER 20, 1951**  
Dr. Henry Boswell, superintendent of the Mississippi State Sanatorium right, poses with a member of his staff and a group of youthful patients at the children’s quarters. The first building to house children at the institution was erected in 1928. It provides facilities for about 50 children.

**SEPTEMBER 21, 1961**  
Mrs. Myra Martin pours for Mrs. Katherine Trapp, two of the personnel taking part in the workshop at Pearl River Indian School. The Easter theme was carried out in the decoration and refreshments as have other holidays been demonstrated during the workshop.

Mrs. Inez Allen, librarian, Mrs. Nannie C. Adams, cook at Bogue Chitto and Mrs. Clarice Carmikel, education specialist, all employees of the Indian Agency were recognized for outstanding service in their line of work.

**SEPTEMBER 23, 1971**  
Taking part in the traditional social club rushing of freshman and transfers at Mississippi State College for Women in Columbus Miss., at a part for the Mam’selle social club are Mam’selle Cissy White of Blytheville, Ark., freshman Jan Stennett of Eupora, freshman Marilyn Lewis of Philadelphia, Mam’selle Mary McCauley of Philadelphia, and freshman Linda Hicks of Philadelphia.

**SEPTEMBER 24, 1981**  
Alverta Fleming purchases the first copy of Giant Houseparty Cookbook from Connie Sampsell, manager of Philadelphia-Neshoba County Chamber of Commerce. The cookbook was a result of a project begun by the Rotary Club and later assumed by the Chamber of Commerce. Lisa Jones, a senior at Philadelphia High School, and part time secretary for the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Chamber of Commerce, inspects the first box of the Giant Houseparty cookbooks. The books arrived Monday and are on sale at the Chamber office.

**SEPTEMBER 18, 1991**  
The Choctaw Area Council, Boy Scouts of America presented a certificate for outstanding service to the United Way of Neshoba County. Included in the picture are Gerald Winstead, Neshoba County United Way campaign chairman; Nancy Yates, United Way campaign President; Charles Stephens president of Choctaw Area Council; Noel

Evans, Scouting executive; Kenneth Breland; vice-president properties for the Council; and Joe Cole, district executive for the Council.

**SEPTEMBER 19, 2001**  
Dayna Dickinson of Philadelphia and LaPorshia McBeth of Len are better prepared to become tomorrow’s leaders after participating in Washington Youth Tour 2001, an annual leadership development program for high school Juniors. The Youth Tour is designed to offer students from across the nation the opportunity to meet their elected officials, watch government in action and tour historically significant sites, memorials and museums.

Philadelphia High School wide receiver Orie Hudson had a simple explanation as to how he was able to make a spectacular, twice-deflected catch of a pass that set up his team’s winning touchdown against Neshoba Central on Friday night. “It landed in my hands like a gift from God or something,” Hudson said.

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2011**  
Beekeeper Keith Boswell works to gather yellow honey bees buzzing around the front of Stribling Drug Store. The bees could be found flying back and forth along the sidewalk, always returning to the awning in front of Stribling, he said. Boswell used a vacuum to catch the insects. Philadelphia’s Romon Gray catches a pass from Lee Smith Friday Night during the Tornados’ 28-0 win over Northeast Lauderdale.

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

## Unnecessary wars

In a diplomatic coup, Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced a deal last week with the U.K. and U.S. to have those Anglo-American allies help build a nuclear-powered submarine fleet for Australia.

A \$66 billion French deal to provide Canberra with diesel electric-powered submarines, among the largest defense contracts Paris had ever negotiated, was blown off.

“A stab in the back!” said Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, who had been kept in the dark on the secret talks. “There has been duplicity, contempt and lies.” Le Drian compared President Joe Biden to former President Donald Trump.

President Emmanuel Macron recalled his ambassadors to both the U.S. and Australia. In two centuries of U.S.-French diplomatic relations, no such recall had ever occurred.

What does this Australia First submarine deal mean?

Canberra, which has sought to steer a middle course between its great customer China and its great ally America, is coming down on the side of the Americans in the rising great-power quarrel.

This “AUXUS” partnership, says Beijing, will “severely damage” peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific, and Beijing is demanding to know whether Australia regards China as a “partner or a threat.”

This new clash comes as China is using its military to speak for its claims to islands and islets hundreds of miles off its coast.

Several Chinese claims collide directly with the territorial claims of neighbors who are longtime U.S. treaty allies for whose territory we are committed to fight.

China claims, for example, the Paracel and Spratly Islands and almost all of the rocks and reefs in the South China Sea, many of which are within territorial waters claimed by Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, the Philippines and Taiwan.

RICH LOWRY

## 2020 is toxic for Republicans

The best indication that Larry Elder was going down hard in the California recall wasn’t the polling, although that all swung the wrong way in the final weeks, but his suggestion late in the campaign that Democrats were going to steal the election.

Preemptive excuse-making isn’t a sign of great confidence — the winning side never complains of cheating.

Sure enough, incumbent Gov. Gavin Newsom cruised to a victory made a little easier, as it happens, by Elder’s insistence that Republicans were robbed in 2020 and about to be robbed again.

To his credit, Elder graciously conceded on Tuesday night, but his talk of stolen elections was arguably his biggest misstep of the campaign.

His landslide defeat is the latest evidence that the idea the 2020 presidential election was stolen is toxic for Republicans.

It’s not as though Elder, a talk radio host with no political experience who was running in a deep blue state and got massively outspent, was going to have an easy time regardless. But when he got pushed by Trump supporters into endorsing the stolen election narrative, he ran directly into a Newsom political buzzsaw linking him with Donald Trump and the Jan. 6 riot.

In the Georgia special Senate elections earlier this year, Trump himself divided the party and suppressed GOP turnout at the margins by trying to make the election about November 2020 as much as possible and accusing Republi-

*Are the US and China stumbling toward an “Islands War”?*

China also claims Taiwan itself, 110 miles off its coast, as well as the nearby Senkaku Islands, which Japan controls and for which Tokyo appears to be preparing to fight. A Chinese-Japanese clash over the Senkakus, the Biden administration has said, will bring the U.S. in on the side of Japan.

In a recent CNN interview, Japan’s Defense Minister Nobuo Kishi said the Senkakus would be defended as Japanese national territory.

And Japan has been expanding its Self-Defense Forces, adding the latest U.S. F-35 fighters, converting warships into aircraft carriers, and building new destroyers, submarines and missiles.

Earlier this year, the Biden State Department said the U.S.-Japan security treaty covers the Senkakus and our Philippines security treaty covers Manila’s claims to Chinese-occupied islets in the South China Sea.

Message: If Manila chooses to fight to retrieve its islets from Chinese occupation and control, America will fight on Manila’s side.

Still, China has yet to back down from any of its claims.

It has sailed warships and planes to hassle U.S. and allied ships and planes in the South China and East China Seas and sent fleets of bombers and fighters into airspace on Taiwan’s side of the Taiwan Strait.

To prevent Taiwan’s independence, Beijing has said, it will fight.

Should fighting break out between China and the U.S. over these claims, the war would be about islands that are thousands of miles from our West Coast but within a few hundred miles of the China coast.

Other East Asian nations are also communicating their interests and intent through military demonstrations.

*Idea that the 2020 presidential election was stolen is toxic for Republicans.*

cans who didn’t go along with his allegations of partisan treason.

There may be other costs to come, perhaps up to and including the 2024 presidential election if Trump is the nominee again.

The odds were always stacked against Elder. Still, there was a chance he could define himself as an outsider worth taking a flier on, so long as he never lost sight of the fact he was running in a strongly anti-Trump state with an enormous Democratic registration advantage.

In an interview with the Sacramento Bee editorial board in August, Elder seemed aware of his situation. Asked about the 2020 election, he said Biden had won “fairly and squarely.”

Then, Elder got some pushback on Twitter and couldn’t withstand it. Shortly thereafter, he appeared on a conservative talk radio program and said he needed “a mulligan,” and related a variety of complaints about the 2020 election.

Although Elder didn’t deserve the abuse he endured during the campaign — getting smeared as an alleged tool of white supremacy and even physically assaulted at a campaign stop — here, he’d given his opponents unnecessary ammunition.

If Elder had been running in a Republican primary in a red

After claiming to have tested a new long-range cruise missile, North Korea last week tested two ballistic missiles. At that same time, South Korea was testing its own submarine-launched ballistic missile, becoming the first country without nuclear weapons to do so.

This past summer, there were reports that Pyongyang had restarted a reactor in its main nuclear complex at Yongbyon, suggesting that Kim Jong Un may be ramping up his nuclear weapons program.

And, regularly now, U.S. planes stationed in Alaska scramble to intercept Russian military aircraft. This year, the number of intercepts, 14, is on pace to set a record since the Cold War. In the most recent case, two Russian bombers and two fighters came within 30 miles of the Alaskan coast.

This summer, Russian naval vessels came within 34 miles of Hawaii.

Russian ships and planes off Alaska are perhaps responding to U.S. warships and planes in the Black Sea.

World War II began in Europe when the British, Sept. 3, 1939, declared war on Germany over its invasion of Poland to retrieve what Berlin claimed were its territories, including Danzig, taken from Germany at Versailles against the will of the people of Danzig and in violation of their right of self-determination.

If World War III breaks out between China and the U.S., it is likely to be over islands of Asia claimed by China, with the U.S. fighting not for its own territory but for the island territory of allies, probably islands in no way vital to the security of the United States.

Which is how world powers often end their days as world powers, fighting unnecessary wars on behalf of other nations.

*Patrick J. Buchanan is the author of “Nixon’s White House Wars: The Battles That Made and Broke a President and Divided America Forever.”*

state, he would have secured his position nicely with his do-over, but he’d driven a nail in his own coffin in the recall.

It’s one thing to complain about last-minute changes in voting procedures in 2020 and to advocate for a system that is secure and tilts toward in-person voting; it’s another to retail unproven allegations that, for most people, will always be associated with Trump’s worst excesses and the rioting at the U.S. Capitol.

The choice that was forced on Elder — to admit that Biden won the election and alienate MAGA voters, or to say it was stolen and alienate voters in the middle — will be faced by Republican candidates around the country for the duration.

That won’t change as long as Trump has an outsized influence on the party. He’s not letting 2020 go, rather is bent on vengeance against those Republicans he believes betrayed him by not embracing his various conspiracy theories.

Since he never admits the fairness of any loss, the number of rigged and stolen elections will only increase — the recall, Trump said in a statement, is “just another giant Election Scam, no different, but less blatant, than the 2020 Presidential Election Scam!”

This is a cynical and corrosive view of American democracy that, to the extent it becomes GOP orthodoxy, can only contribute to further Republican frustration.

*Rich Lowery is editor of National Review, a leading conservative magazine founded by William F. Buckley.*

## BIBLE SELECTION

“Be glad, O children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God, for he has given the early rain for your vindication; he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the latter rain, as before.

— Joel 2:23 (ESV)

**LETTERS**  
The Democrat welcomes letters, comments or suggestions:  
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439 Beacon Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350  
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## OBITUARIES

### Wadell Wallace

Funeral service for Mr. Wadell Wallace will be held at 10 AM Friday, September 17, 2021 at Crystal Ridge Gym with Rev. Charles Hickman, Jr. officiating. Interment will be in Dancing Rabbit Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 10 AM Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at Crystal Ridge Gym. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Wallace, 55, passed away on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at his home. He enjoyed attending family functions, spending time with his wife, baseball, softball, playing washers and listening to old music.

Mr. Wallace is preceded in death by his brothers, Talon Wallace and Robert Travis Wallace; grandparents, Rosie Clemons Amos, Waggner Amos, Annie Wesley Wallac, Steward Wallace.

Survivors include wife, Shirley Wallace; parents, Robert Butler Wallace, Lorine Amos; sister, Sadie Ann Wallace Hickman; brothers, George Washington Wallace, Larry John Wallace; 2 grandchildren; God-daughter, Leslie Jordan Hickman; host of nieces and nephews.

### Bianca Shauntay Jim

Funeral service for Ms. Bianca Shauntay Jim will be held at 3 PM Friday, September 17, 2021 at Hope Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Travis Willis and Joseph Wesley officiating. Interment will be in Hope Indian Baptist Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 3 PM Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at Hope Indian Baptist Church. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Jim, 43, passed away on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at Merit Health-Rankin in Brandon, MS. She loved to cook and loved sports. Her favorite teams were the New Orleans Saints and the LSU Tigers.

Ms. Jim is preceded in death by her father, Barry Jim, Sr.

Survivors include mother, Annie Kate Smith Sam; sons, Brayton Jim and Braynon Jim; sisters, Cinica Sam; brothers, Barry Jim, Jr., Chris Jim, Landon Jim, Dory Jim, Derek Medford, Garronsen Sam.

Pallbearers are Keanu Anderson, Kaleb Chickaway, Eli Joe, James Mingo, Angelo Bell, Michael Willis, Tyler Willis, Kevin Willis, Sr., Elliott McMillan, Belvin Willis, Choctaw Tribal Landscaping.

### “Ike” Christopher Chickaway

Graveside service for Mr. “Ike” Christopher Chickaway will be held at 2 PM Saturday, September 18, 2021, at Holy Rosary Cemetery with Father Bob Goodyear officiating. Visitation will begin at 5:30 PM Thursday, September 16, 2021, at Tucker Gym. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Chickaway, 55, passed away Wednesday, September 15, 2021. He was Catholic by Faith. His hobbies were helping others, cutting grass, fixing cars and he loved his family.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Clement Chickaway and Lurline McMillan Chickaway; sister, Earlene Flores; brothers, Hayward Chickaway, Silman John.

Survivors include daughters, Tarrell Chickaway, Justina Amos; sons, Dewight Chickaway, Scottie Amos; sister, Theresa Chickaway; brothers, John Lee Chickaway, Charlie Chickaway, Elroy Chickaway, Robert Chickaway; (4) grandchildren.

Pallbearers are Ramey Dan, Greg Tubby, Ricky Orduno, Keyshawn Nickey, Ashley McMillan, Jaylyn Tubby, Denzel Mingo, Kacy Bell, Justin Tubby, Berto Fonseca.

### Larry Donovan Thompson I

Funeral service for Mr. Larry Donovan Thompson I, was held 2 PM Monday, September 20, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Lawrence Pool and Rev. Nick Ulmer officiating. Interment in Mars Hill Cemetery, Winston Co. John E. Stephens Chapel in charge.

Mr. Thompson, 69, Sunday, September 12, 2021 at his home. He lived in Neshoba Co. most of his life. He was a member of Longino Baptist Church. He was a Mason, and a Shriner. His hobbies were football, baseball and grandkids.

He is preceded in death by his wife Rose Thompson; parents Bernard Thompson and Edna Earl Todd Thompson.

Survivors include daughters, Tia Kitchens of Carthage and Niccole Thompson of Philadelphia; sons, Bernie Thompson of Union, and Larry D. Thompson II (Mandy) of Philadelphia; (10) grandchildren; (4) great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers: Wendell Walker, Jadan Adkins, Williams Jenkins, Anthony Machart, Sandy Dillard, Larry D. Thompson II, Bernie Thompson.

### David Glenn McKinnion

Funeral service for Mr. David Glenn McKinnion was held at 10 AM Saturday, September 18, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Robert Roncali officiating. Interment will be in Zion Hill Baptist Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel in charge.

Mr. McKinnion, 58, passed away on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at University Medical Center in Jackson, MS. He loved old cars and trucks and was a member of Philadelphia Car Club. Mr. McKinnion is preceded in death by his wife, Rena Hamilton McKinnion in 2019; mother, Loretta McKinnion; infant granddaughter, Destiny Leann.

Survivors include his daughter, Ashley Beavers (James); son, Joseph McKinnion; father, Bobby McKinnion; sisters, Carol Schultz, Lynn Allen; brother, Dwight McKinnion; 4 grandchildren. Family and friends served as pallbearers.

### Mildred Ladd Atkins

Funeral service for Ms. Mildred Ladd Atkins was held at 2 PM Thursday, September 16, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Bro. Allen Herrington, Bro. Dwight Fleming and Bro. Jody Atkins officiating. Interment in Old Pearl Valley Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel in charge.

Ms. Atkins, 89, passed away Monday, September 13, 2021 at Anderson Regional Medical Center. She lived in Arlington Community most of her life. She retired from Wells Lamont Corporation and was a member of West Philadelphia Baptist Church. Her hobbies included sewing, quilting, yardwork and flowers.

Preceded in death: Parents, William Rett Stuart and Emma Lee McCown Stuart; Husbands, Marion Ladd and Jimmy Atkins; Daughter, Shelby Ladd Ganey; Sisters, Oma Ferguson, Erna Agent, Hattie Reese and Emma Dell Dunn; Brothers, Brantley Stuart, Prentiss Stuart and Mack Stuart.

Survivors: Daughter, Fay Carney (Jerry); Sons, Jimmy Dale Ladd (Debbie), Jody Atkins (Hillery); (10) Grandchildren; (15) Great-Grandchildren; (1) Great-Great-Grandchild.

### R.C. Wilson

Funeral service for Mr. R.C. Wilson was held 10 AM Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. John E. Stephens and Rev. Mack Alford officiating. Interment in Henry’s Chapel Cemetery. Mr. Wilson, 77, passed away Sunday, September 12, 2021 at his home in the Fork Community, where he lived most of his life. He was a carpenter and enjoyed working in his yard and spending time with family. He attended North Calvary Baptist Church. Preceded in death: Parents, Charles Robert Wilson and Johnnie Ruth Spears Wilson; Wife, Diane Wilson; Brother, John T. Wilson; Sister, Bobbie Faye Epps. Survivors: Sons, Darrell Wilson (Rhonda) and Kevin Wilson (Renea); Sisters, Francis Davis and Elizabeth McKenzie; Brother, Rev. Jerry L. Wilson; (6) Grandchildren; (13) Great-Grandchildren. Pallbearers: Josh Graham, Myles Jenkins, Tyler Graham, Jeremy Blair, Bentley Keller and Wyatt Jenkins. Honorary pallbearers: Cody Wilson, Kamyn Day, Lyem Jenkins and Daniel Graham.

### Charles Henry Burnside

A Memorial service for Mr. Charles Henry Burnside will be held at a later date.

Mr. Burnside, 79, passed away Monday, September 20, 2021 at his home in the Fork Community. He lived in Neshoba Co. most of his life. He was in the US Airforce. He was a Table Dealer at The Silver Star and The Ameristar casino. His hobbies were fishing, camping, farming, and riding his tractor. He was an animal lover.

### Charles Henry Burnside

He is preceded in death by his parents, Henry Clay and Polly Burnside; brother, Billy Joe Burnside.

Survivors include, daughter, Lakrista Burnside Jourdan; sisters, Janie Crisler (Lee), Wanda

Beck (Mike); brother, Tommy Burnside (Peggy); (2) grandchildren, Taylor David Jourdan and Layne Kirstphor Jourdan.

### Bobbie Jean Frazier

Funeral service for Ms. Bobbie Jean Frazier will be held at 10 AM Thursday, September 23, 2021 at Nanih Waiya Mennonite Church with Rev. Glenn Myers and Rev. Harvey Yoder officiating. Interment will be in the Church Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 3 PM Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at Nanih Waiya Mennonite Church. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Frazier, 72, passed away on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw, MS. She enjoyed walking outside and observing nature, sewing and watching game shows.

Ms. Frazier is preceded in death by her husband, Lee Roy Frazier, Sr.; parents, Lee Jim, Sr. and Lonie Cotton; daughters, Margie Frazier, Margaret Frazier; sons, Michael Frazier, Timothy Frazier, Lee Roy Frazier, Jr., Roy Frazier; sister, Lillie Frazier; brothers, Bobo Phillips, Lee Jim, Jr.

Survivors include 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers are Dave Willis, Dan Willis, Merle Henry, Keanu Anderson, Ronnie Henry, Sr., Randall Cooper, Grifith Willis, Taylor Cotton, Timmy Willis, Kendall Wallace.

### Arthur Eakes

Funeral services for Arthur Eakes were held Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 3 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Bert Jones officiating. Burial followed in McClain Cemetery. Visitation was held Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 12 noon until service time at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

Mr. Eakes, 73, of Philadelphia, died Saturday, September 18, 2021.

He was a native of Neshoba County and served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. He retired from Weyerhaeuser in 2015 after 43 years. Mr. Eakes was a member of McClain Chapel Pentecostal Church.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Ruth Withers Eakes; son, Arthur Chester “Chet” Eakes; step-son, Andrew Joseph Givens, Jr.; adopted daughter, Ashley Renee Barrier; four grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; sister, Mary Posey; several great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and their families.

Preceded in death by parents, Chester and Magaline Eakes; son, Robert Ashley Eakes; brother, Johnny Mac Eakes; sister, Linda Sue Knight.

### David Curtis

Funeral services for David Curtis were held Monday, September 20, 2021 at 1 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Jeff Brewer and Rev. Mark Cloys officiating. Burial followed in Eastlawn Cemetery. Visitation was held Monday, September 20, 2021 from 11 a.m. until service time at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

Mr. Curtis, 86, of Philadelphia, died Friday, September 17, 2021.

He was a native of French Camp and served in the United States Navy. He worked in the office Supply business for 42 years and was co-owner of Curtis Office Supply for 22 years until his retirement in 2005.

Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Janie Moorhead; daughter, Vicki Curtis; brother’s-in-law, Arlis Godfrey and Wayne Moorhead; four nephews and one niece.

Mr. Curtis was preceded in death by his parents Wyatt and Louise Curtis; brother, Edwin Curtis; sisters, Annie Jo Godfrey and Dora Bess Steffle.

### Harold Clark

Mr. Clark passed away after a short illness. He was 84. He has two living sons, James and Ben Clark. He has two grandchildren by Ben Clark (Bianca and Alec Clark). Harold was born in Lincoln, NE and was a Bible College Professor. His parents were Myron and Fauniel Clark; wife, Donna Clark, who passed away in 2017.

### Brady J. Stewart

Funeral services for Brady J. Stewart were held Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 2 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Matthew Jones and Rev. Larry Duncan officiating. Burial followed in Salem Baptist Cemetery. Visitation was held Satur-

day, September 18, 2021 from 5 until 9 p.m. at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

Mr. Stewart, 21, of Philadelphia, died Tuesday, September 14, 2021.

He was a native of Scott County and a graduate of Lake High School in 2018. He worked as a Aviation Operations Specialist for the Army National Guard. Mr. Stewart was a member of Salem Baptist Church in Lake and he attended Philadelphia Church of God in Philadelphia.

Survivors include his wife, Alexis Stewart; daughter, Jessi Kate Stewart; parents, Stanley and Angela Stewart; brothers, Andrew Stewart and Tyler Stewart ; grandparents, Cobert and Sandra Phillips, Earl and Audrey Stewart; a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

### Beverly Joyce Adkins

Family will have a private memorial service at a later date.

Mrs. Adkins, 71, of Union, died Monday, September 13, 2021.

She was a resident of Neshoba County for the past 30 years. She was a former daycare worker and former sales associate at Wal-Mart. She loved being around her family. Mrs. Adkins was a member of the First Baptist Church of Union.

Survivors include her husband, Benny Adkins of Union; daughter, Diane Andrews (Jeffery) of Union; son, Mark Adkins of Austin, AR; grandchildren, Meagan (Austin Suggs) and Brendan Rea, Destin Adkins, Monica, Josh and Katelynd Andrews; two great-grandchildren; two sisters.

Mrs. Adkins was preceded in death by her parents, Harold and Juanita Joerns; brother, Gary Joerns.


The family would like to say a special “Thanks” to Liz Patterson for everything you have done for our mother during her final months.

### Barry Irons

Funeral services for Barry Irons were held Saturday, September 18, 2021 at 2 p.m. at McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Chris Young officiating. Burial followed in Cedarlawn Cemetery. Visitation was held Saturday, September 18, 2021 from 12 noon until service time at McClain-Hays Funeral Home. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Irons, 72, of Philadelphia, died Tuesday, September 14, 2021.

Barry was a native of Neshoba County and a longtime resident of Philadelphia. He attended Philadelphia High School, East Central Community College and Mississippi State University. He was elected to East Central Athletic Hall of Fame where he was a standout in football. He formerly worked as a Chief Industrial Engineer with Elger Plumbing Ware in Tupelo and was a former owner of Philadelphia Dry



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MRS. MELISSA CLEMONS  
-GRAVESIDE SERVICE-  
2 P.M. THU., SEPT. 16, 2021  
DONALD REST CEMETERY

MS. AFRIQUE “SUSIE” CHANTEL CLEMONS  
11 A.M. SAT., SEPT. 18, 2021  
BECK FUNERAL HOME CHAPEL  
INTERMENT DONALD REST CEMETERY

MR. WILLIE JAMES BOHANNON  
-GRAVESIDE SERVICE-  
11 A.M. SAT., SEPT. 18, 2021  
JERUSALEM CHURCH CEMETERY, DEKALB

MRS. CLARA WINDHAM  
-GRAVESIDE SERVICE-  
1 P.M. THU., SEPT. 23, 2021  
PRESTON PENTECOSTAL CHURCH CEMETERY

MR. BARRY MCKINNEY  
-ARRANGEMENTS INCOMPLETE--

10460 Rd 561  
Philadelphia  
601-656-1191  
www.beckfuneralhomeinc.com

Cleaners from 1994-2012. He loved his family, playing with his granddaughters, coaching for the children’s athletic teams, MSU Bulldogs, church, the coffee club and keeping his yard nice. Mr. Irons was an active member of First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Irons of Philadelphia; children, Jenny Irons (George Hobor) of Maplewood, NJ, Dan Irons (Karen) of Westerville, OH and Mary Margaret Massey (Will) of Louisville, MS; grandchildren, Addy, Lillian, Kate and Savannah; mother, Bobbie Holley of Philadelphia; sister, Kay Duett (Stuart) and Patti Rickles; several nieces, nephews and their families.

Mr. Irons was preceded in death by his father, Vester Irons; step-father, John Holley.

Pallbearers are Burt Turcotte, Trent Rickles, Jamie Rickles, Kyle Stribling, Reid Stribling, Ty Duett and Mark Bowles

Honorary Pallbearers are Sam Nowell, Bill Rosamond, Charles Pair, Art Fulton and John Galberry.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be made to MD Anderson Cancer Center of Houston, St Jude Children’s Hospital or the charity of your choice.

### Mark Townsend

Services for Mark Townsend were held Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 1 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Shawn Holley officiating. Burial followed in the Fellowship Cemetery in Neshoba County. Visitation was held Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 11 a.m. until service time at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

Mr. Townsend, 44, of Philadelphia, died Sunday, September 12, 2021.


He was a native and longtime resident of Neshoba County. A graduate of NCHS in 1995, he attended Meridian Community College and Itawamba Community College. Mr. Townsend was Baptist by faith.

Survivors include daughters, Alesha Cross and Jordan Townsend; son, Tyler Townsend, all of Hattiesburg; grandchildren, Kamrein Harrison Cross, Jayse Cross, Talyn Cross; mother, Barbara Townsend; grandmother, Ruby Townsend; brother, Sammy Townsend of Meridian and Randy Townsend of Philadelphia; grandmother, Ruby Townsend; several nieces and nephews.

Preceding Mr. Townsend in death was his father, B. J. Townsend.

### Helen Herrington

A memorial service for Ms.



McClain-Hays Funeral Home

MR. ARTHUR EAKES  
SERVICES SEPTEMBER 21  
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL  
MCLAIN CHAPEL CEMETERY

MR. DAVID CURTIS  
SERVICES SEPTEMBER 20  
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL  
EASTLAWN CEMETERY


MR. HAROLD CLARK  
NEW BETHEL CEMETERY

SGT. BRADY STEWART  
SERVICES SEPTEMBER 19  
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL  
SALEM BAPTIST CEMETERY

MR. BARRY IRONS  
SERVICES SEPTEMBER 18  
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL  
CEDARLAWN CEMETERY

MR. MARK TOWNSEND  
SERVICES SEPTEMBER 21  
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL  
FELLOWSHIP CEMETERY

BEVERLY JOYCE ADKINS  
MEMORIAL SERVICE AT A LATER DATE

Member   
THE ORDER OF THE GOLDEN RULE

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Helen Herrington will be held 2 PM Sunday, September 25, 2021 at First Presbyterian Church.

Ms. Helen R. Herrington passed away Thursday, September 2, 2021 at her home. She was born in New Jersey, and served in the Army’s military police where she met her late husband Johnny Earl Herrington. She lived in Michigan for several years before moving to Philadelphia, MS in 1994. She was a faithful member of First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia. She was a member of Clay Buff Art Association, Friends of The Library and Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild. Her hobbies were artwork and crafts.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Johnny Earl Herrington who passed in 2001; parents Charles Riehle and Emma Marie Riehle; an infant son.

Survivors include sons, John Wayne Herrington (Patricia) of Ohio and Kip Cooper Herrington (Laurie) of Philadelphia, MS; (3) grandchildren, Shelby, Olivia, and Samuel. They are all nurses and cared for her at her home in her last days.


### Billie Jean Hines

A graveside memorial service for Ms. Billie Jean Hines will be held at 1:00 PM Saturday, September 25, 2021 at Mars Hill Cemetery.

Ms. Billie Jean Hines passed away Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian MS. She lived in Neshoba Co. most of her life. She was Baptist by Faith. Her hobbies were gardening and flowers.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Hines; parents, Charles Lester Graham Sr. and

See **OBITS**, page 7A



JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL  
FUNERAL SERVICES

MR. R.C. WILSON  
10 AM WED., SEPT. 14, 2021  
JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL  
HENRY’S CHAPEL

MS. MILDRED LADD ATKINS  
2 PM THURS., SEPT. 16, 2021  
JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL  
OLD PEARL VALLEY CEMETERY

MR. WADELL WALLACE  
10 AM FRI., SEPT. 17, 2021  
CRYSTAL RIDGE GYM  
DANCING RABBIT CEMETERY

MS. BIANCA JIM  
3 PM FRI., SEPT. 17, 2021  
HOPE INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH  
CHURCH CEMETERY

MR. DAVID GLENN MCKINNIION  
10 AM SAT., SEPT. 18, 2021  
JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL  
ZION HILL BAPTIST CEMETERY-LEAKE CO

MR. CHRISTOPHER “IKE” CHICKAWAY  
2 PM SAT., SEPT. 18, 2021  
GRAVESIDE HOLY ROSARY CEMETERY

MR. LARRY THOMPSON  
2 PM MON., SEPT. 20, 2021  
JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL  
MARS HILL CEMETERY (WINSTON CO.)

MS. BOBBIE JEAN FRAZIER  
10 AM THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021  
NANIH WAIYA MENNONITE CHURCH  
CHURCH CEMETERY

MS. BILLIE JEAN HINES  
1 PM SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021  
GRAVESIDE MARS HILL (WINSTON CO.)

MS. HELEN R. HERRINGTON  
2 PM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021  
MEMORIAL SERVICE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MR. CHARLES HENRY BURNSIDE  
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Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

God's special favor toward Israel

This passage highlights for us another stop in Paul's first missionary journey. Paul and his companions left Cyprus and traveled to Asia Minor, the location of modern day Turkey. They traveled inland and arrived at Antioch in Pisidia, where Paul was asked to speak in the synagogue. I want to draw your attention to several aspects of Paul's message.

First, it is full of Scripture. He gives a summary of God's special favor toward Israel in the Old Testament. In doing so he brings out the redemptive favors of God, all of which pointed to the coming of Christ into the world.

Paul depicts Scripture as an organic whole, gradually unfolding the redemptive promise of God until its complete disclosure in Jesus' death and resurrection. To say Scripture is God-breathed is not an irrational statement. Paul points to God fulfilling the prophets and his purposes in the coming of Jesus.

When Jesus began his ministry, he quoted words that Isaiah had written around 800 years before: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind and to set at liberty those who are oppressed: to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Isaiah 61:1).

Isaiah was writing of the work of salvation the Messiah would accomplish. When Jesus finished reading this, he sat down and said, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." In Paul's sermon, he quotes the Old Testament to explain Christ's death, his redemptive accomplishments, and his resurrection. He uses Scripture, as Jesus did, to unveil God's salvation.

God moved the prophets to write of Christ so we could see plainly that salvation is from him and that Jesus is more than a prophet. He is the eternal Son of God, God's final word to sinful humanity; he is not just a messenger, but the message. And we need to listen because he came to save sinners.

Another element of Paul's sermon is to bring out the patience of God with sinners. Israel's persistent response toward the amazing favor of God was rebellion and

unbelief. God shows in the nation of Israel the sinfulness of sin in mankind. Their rebellion against God culminates in calling for Jesus' death: "And though they found in him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have him executed" (Acts 13:28).

Israel needed a sin-pardoning God, and so do you and I. Christ came to save sinners. That is the message. If God didn't bear long with sinners and pardon many and repeated offenses, we would have no hope. You can look at yourself and rightly say I am a standing example of God's patience with sinners.

Another aspect of Paul's sermon is to emphasize what a treasure the gospel is. He says, "We bring you good news" (Acts 13:32). This is the same "glad tidings" the angels pronounced to the shepherds when Christ the Lord was born (Luke 2).

Paul says of Christ: "Let it be known to you therefore brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed from the law of Moses" (Acts 13:38-39).

In Christ, God's justice and mercy are reconciled. God freely forgives sinners because Christ has taken the judgment they rightly deserve. God can forgive the worst sin without relinquishing in the least his abhorrence of that sin. This is how great a treasure the gospel is, how great a treasure Christ is.

But forgiveness is not automatic. It is required you believe, that you have faith in Christ. And that means coming to be washed clean by him; entrusting your body and soul unto him. It is not a deleterious thing to be cleansed and embraced by the Son of God, nor to receive a rich welcome into the kingdom of God. It is the gift of life. And God delights to give it.

Paul closes his sermon with a warning. He quotes the prophet Habakkuk, who warned Israel of impending judgment (Acts 13:41). His point is you can't avert the judgment of God because you don't believe it or don't like it. It is coming. What you can do is make provision for it by calling upon Christ.

This Devotional and Directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to, attend worship services. If your church is not listed this week, please look in next week's edition.

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— **1 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)**

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# Annual Fore A Cure golf tournament set for Sept. 30

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS  
news@neshobademocrat.com

The annual Fore A Cure Golf Tournament to benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life has a 9 a.m. Sept. 30 tee time at Dancing Rabbit Golf Course. The Fore A Cure Tournament benefits the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life and began about 12 years ago as a way for Weyerhaeuser to raise money for Relay For Life. Then-Weyerhaeuser Plant Manager Stan Webb, who is now retired, came up with the tournament after participation in the annual Relay For Life event had declined as a way for the community to help fight cancer. In 2019 the golf tournament raised more than \$56,000, and Webb said the tournament gives people a chance to fight cancer while having fun and networking. "This is Neshoba County's Relay For Life sponsorship

golf tournament," Webb said. Participation in the golf tournament requires a minimum \$1,000 team donation and fundraising commitment. Check-in for the tournament will begin at 8 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 30, with a 9 a.m. tee time at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Course. The \$1,000 donation includes a three-person team entry — a 1-hole sponsorship for people fighting cancer or for loved ones who have died of cancer with recognition on the program's literature and public communications. Prizes will be given for the Partner's Champion (lowest score among the partners) and Overall Champion (lowest score). Registration for the tournament officially ended Sept. 20, but late registration is possible for businesses and people who are interested by calling Webb at 601-416-2232 or emailing him at standwebb@gmail.com.



Stan Webb practices his putting in advance of the annual Fore A Cure golf tournament scheduled for Sept. 30.

# National Guardsman killed in 19 wreck remembered as loving

By DUNCAN DENT  
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

Sgt. Brady J. Stewart is being remembered as a loving father and husband after a fatal early-morning crash last Tuesday on Highway 19 between Philadelphia and Tucker. Stewart, who worked as an aviation operation specialist for the Army National Guard, is survived by his wife Alexis and a young daughter, Jessi Kate, of Philadelphia.

Stewart loved to ride four wheelers, go jeep riding, camping and most anything outdoors including playing corn hole, his family said.

Stewart enjoyed spending time with his family and friends and "especially loved spending time with his daughter," the family said.

Stewart was a member of Salem Baptist Church in Lake and he attended Philadelphia Church of God.

The Democrat reported last week, according to the Mississippi Highway Patrol, Stewart was from Lake. He was a native of Scott County but had married and moved to Philadelphia recently.



Brady J. Stewart of Philadelphia is being remembered as a loving father and husband after a fatal early-morning crash last Tuesday on Highway 19 between Philadelphia and Tucker. He is survived by his wife Alexis and daughter Jessi Kate.

Stewart was laid to rest in Salem Baptist Cemetery on Sunday afternoon with the Rev. Matthew Jones and the Rev. Larry Duncan officiating. The accident shut down Highway 19 and diverted traffic for more than two hours. Stewart, 21, was pronounced dead on the scene of the 6:26 a.m. accident near Cheatom

that a 2018 Mazda 6 driven by Stewart ... was traveling south on Mississippi 19," an MHP report said. "A 2004 GMC Yukon driven by Alexander ... was traveling north on Mississippi 19. The Mazda 6 and GMC Yukon collided head-on." Alexander was in critical condition at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, a relative told the Democrat. The crash remains under investigation by the MPH. Olivia Holdiness is organizing a fundraiser on GoFundMe to cover funeral expenses. "If you feel led to give, please donate," Holdiness wrote. "Those who do not have to give, please offer prayers for this precious family. Lift their name up to the heavens in this tragic time of need. We, as a community, want this family to feel God's love and peace as they navigate throughout this season of grief with little stress and hardships." His wife Alexis said on Facebook the afternoon of the wreck:

"I know many have heard the very tragic news about Brady. Yes, he passed away this morning in a bad car wreck. It's so unreal to me. Jessi Kate and I will need ALL of the prayers we can get. Idk what to think or do. My husband is gone. My daughters father is gone. I may not respond to calls. Texts. Or messages. But please know I am reading them. Please remember me, our precious daughter and the rest of the family and friends that was so close to Brady!" "I'm not blaming God for this. He has his reasons for everything he does. Why take my husbands life so soon? I don't know. But God knows. For my daughter I am trying to stay positive." Five others have died on Highway 19 this year between Philadelphia and House. A 56-year-old Tucker man died last Wednesday not far from the scene Tuesday. (See story, Page 2A.)

## COUNTY JAIL DOCKET

*Neshoba County Jail Docket for 9/13-9/20*

- Javious C Adams, 21, of 204 Robinhood Circle; aggravated assault-manifest extreme indifference to life, attempted sexual battery, robbery-armed
- Brandon Anderson, 34, of 186 McDill Rd, Conehatta; possession of paraphernalia, possession of controlled substance
- Caroline Carter, 57, of 10280 Rd 402; disorderly conduct
- Tamera Chunn, 40, of 10631 Rd 237, Union; child abuse
- Chelsey Collins, 27, of 1066 Frog Level Apt 11; child neglect X2, disorderly conduct, careless driving
- Chelsey Collins, 27, of 1066 Frog Level Apt 11; disorderly conduct, possession of firearm on school property, possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana-vehicle
- Alicia Frazier, 32, of 6342 PO Box; contempt of court, possession of paraphernalia
- Raimyll Griffin, 29, of

- 404 Coleman St; speeding-1 to 20 miles over limit
- Darayus M Harris, 33, of 276 Carter Ave; attempt to commit an offense
- Nathaniel Henry, 23, of CR 383; disorderly conduct, public drunk, resisting arrest, false ID information
- Amanda Renee Hollingsworth, 42, of 2710 39th St, Meridian; hold for investigations
- Kennarion Johnson, 22, of 909 21st St, Meridian; hold for investigations
- Iris Jean Killens, 35, of 10720 Rd 616; disturbing the peace, false ID information, abusive calls/emergency phone
- Kedayton K Kirkland, 24, of Philadelphia; hold for other agency
- James Garrett McKinney, 31, of 1091 BIA 0228; failure to appear
- Megell Fernandez Patton, 29, of 1391 Pocohontas Rd, Flora; hold for investigations
- Jason Reed, 38, of 10631 Rd 236, Union; hold for investigations, child abuse
- Alvin Daniel Rodgers,

- 40, of 2620 N FM 113, Weatherford, TX; possession of controlled substance
- Nicholas Rashad Rush, 26, of 10460 Rd 545; failure to appear, possession of a controlled substance within correctional
- Tyler Smith, 26, of 10800 Hwy 16 W; hold for other agency
- Shaunase Kentrell Stallings, 24, of 112 Brown St, Columbus; failure to appear X2
- Shaunase K Stallings, 24, of 112 Brown St, Columbus; failure to appear X2
- Melton Starkey, 26, of 1903 9th Ave, Meridian; hold for investigations
- Jonica G Thomas, 25, of 127 Wolfrail Rd; contempt of court
- Eric Towner Towner, 28, of 564 Futch Rd; hold for investigations
- Kristina Anne Walker, 36, of 995 CR 363, Enterprise; hold for investigations
- April Janice Willis, 39, of 1726 N Jordan St, Carthage; failure to appear

## Obits

Continued from page 5A

Ollie Mae Warren Graham; son, John Henry Hines; sisters, Wanda Faye Chisolm, Charlene Adkins; brother, Richard Wayne Graham. Survivors include, sisters, Mary Alford, Shirley Dirksen, Sheila Burroughs, Elizabeth Graham, Toni Green and Terri Johnson; brother, Charles Graham Jr.; (1) grandson Skylor Hines; a host of nieces and nephews.

### Melissa Clemons

Graveside services for Mrs. Melissa Clemons were held on Thursday, September 16, 2021, at 2 P.M. from Donald Rest Cemetery with Bishop Stan Jones offici-

ating. Beck Funeral Home, Inc was in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Clemons, 61, of Philadelphia, passed away on Friday, September 10, 2021 at her home. She is survived by her husband, L.C. Clemons of Philadelphia, MS; her children, Darius Clemons and Donzelle Clemons, three grandchildren, Jamerius Clemons, Javon Clemons and Lexis Cobb. Family and friends served as pallbearers.

### Afrique "Susie" Clemons

Funeral services for Ms. Afrique "Susie" Clemons were held on Saturday, September 18, 2021, at 11 A.M. from the chapel of Beck Funeral Home with Bishop Chris Chamberlin offici-

ating. Burial was at Donald Rest Cemetery. Beck Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements. Ms. Clemons, 45, of Philadelphia, passed away on Friday, September 10, 2021 Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian. She is survived by her parents, Joanne Clemons of Philadelphia, MS, and Henry Hunter of Rochester, NY, four sisters, Lachunda Clemons, Latoya hunter, Erican Hunter, and Symone Hunter, three brothers, Camille Clemons, Tremaine Clemons and Henry Hunter, Jr., Pallbearers were Undra Black, Darnell Horne, E.J. Hunter, Jerome Hunter, Stanley Hunter and Kelly Peden.

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# Neshoba Central accepts \$3M bid for improvements

By DEBBIE BURT MYERS  
Special to the Democrat

A nearly \$3 million bid was accepted by the Neshoba County School Board for additional new heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, new windows and exterior doors and additional restroom upgrades as the second of a three-phase major renovation project, which spans campus-wide.

Mayrant & Associates of Jackson was awarded the \$2,966,000 bid.

Work is currently underway. Exterior doors will be replaced at the middle and elementary schools. Plans also call for bathroom renovations, new HVAC and window replacements in the junior high physical education dressing room and the elementary auditorium.

There will also be new HVAC and window replacements in the weight room, agricultural shop and the manufacturing and innovation center.

The project will be paid for with federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds which address the impact of COVID-19 on schools.

The funds are part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act passed by Congress.

Neshoba County Superintendent of Education Lundy Brantley said Phase 2 is going to be more expensive than the first phase.

“This phase is not as invasive as the first, but it’s more expensive because there are a lot of electrical upgrades when you have HVAC projects,” he said. “The exterior doors are expensive.”

He noted that Phase 2 will be more difficult “because they will have to work around the students who will be on campus. The first phase was done mostly in the summer.”

Bids are expected to be let for Phase 3 in December or January.

That phase will include additional HVAC and window replacements at the elementary school.

Dr. Brantley noted that the



Azlee Hardy and Kynlee Bryan like the newly renovation restrooms in the second grade hall at Neshoba Central Elementary School.

new windows will add to the aesthetic appearance of the overall campus.

Phase 1 of the project entailed renovations to restrooms in the first, second and fourth grade buildings at the elementary school.

It also included new HVAC systems in the high school gym and old physical education gym.

Burks-Mordecais Builders, Inc. of Columbus was awarded that contract for \$2,566,000.

In a separate project, 10 new welding hoods are being added in the agricultural shop. Several other pieces of equipment are being replaced as well.

Federal monies will also fund that project.

“They will have much better ventilation in there with the

welding hoods,” Dr. Brantley said.

Old high school demolition  
A separate \$748,970 project to demolish the old high school, which has been vacant since 2017, is near complete as the area has been cleared and is ready to sod.

McKee Construction Co. of Philadelphia was awarded the contract to demolish the origi-

nal two-story building, which housed both the high school and junior high at one time. It was constructed in 1963.

The newer adjacent single story building, which includes the old cafeteria, gym and agricultural facilities, remains intact.

About 1,500 bricks from the original building will be utilized to construct a monument

to the old high school. It will be similar to the school’s previous monument, featuring two blue rockets. One of the original rockets will be refurbished. The other one was stolen so a new one will be fabricated to resemble the original.

A location for the monument is yet to be determined.

## Protect Your Health and Your Future – Avoid Opioid Misuse. Say “No” to Meth and Other Drugs!

The rise of synthetic opioids and stimulant drugs, as well as amplified mental health conditions related to Covid-19, has caused the highest number of overdose deaths ever. Over 87,000 American lives were taken by drugs!

### Facts about these dangerous drugs:

Opioids are a class of drugs that includes prescription pain killers and heroin. Mixing opioids with alcohol or other drugs can slow down or stop your breathing and your heart. Misuse of opioid drugs is a leading cause of accidental death in the United States.



**Methamphetamine**, also known as meth, is an addictive stimulant drug. Some people notice an urge to use meth after the first use.

Sometimes people use meth in combination with heroin, prescription opioids or other drugs. This greatly increases the likelihood of health problems, overdose and death. Illegal drugs can be mixed with dangerous drugs or toxic chemicals, such as fentanyl, that can cause poisoning or death. Just a sprinkle of fentanyl is deadly.



**IT ONLY TAKES A LITTLE TO LOSE A LOT.**  
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Did you know that the vast majority of patients hospitalized with Covid-19 are unvaccinated? While the coronavirus is a devastating threat to our community, we can protect ourselves and our families by making the personal decision to get vaccinated. The vaccine is safe, effective, and free.

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# Storey loves recipes from grandmother

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS  
news@neshobademocrat.com

Alyssa Storey learned how to cook from her mother and late paternal grandmother, Dorothy “Dot” Jean Duncan.

Storey will be in her last semester of nursing school this spring, a career she decided to pursue after caring for her grandparents.

"I was going to be a teacher, but God led me in a different direction," Storey said.

She is the daughter of Lisa and Steven Duncan.

"I can remember making homemade biscuits with my mom in the morning," Storey said.

Her grandmother used to make hot crackers, one of Storey’s favorites, and she shared the recipe.

"I like that recipe because it's so easy and a good little snack," Storey said.

Storey's grandmother would always have them around her house, and that is why the recipe is so special to her because it brings back memories of her grandmother.

The Storeys’ daughter, Dorothy Jean, 5, is now getting interested in helping her mother cook, and together they bake sweets including cupcakes and cookies.

"Dorothy Jean loves my sweet tea and spaghetti," Storey said. "And she's not a picky eater."

She also credits her husband, Austin, for doing a lot of the cooking. When she does not feel like it, he will help around the kitchen, she said.

"If he knows I don't feel like cooking, he will," Storey said.

Storey is enjoying life as a newlywed after marrying her high school sweetheart.

"I've been dating Austin since I was in the fifth grade," she said.

The couple got engaged in June and were married in August at their home church God's House.

"I already had my dress and the colors I wanted picked out,

## COOK OF THE WEEK

so the next step was getting flowers," Storey said. "I've been a Duncan for over 20 years, so to get Austin's last name was exciting."

### HOT CRACKERS (IN MEMORY OF MY MAM-MAW DOROTHY DOT DUNCAN

1-2/3 cups canola or olive oil

1-1/8 tsp. Hot sauce (Tabasco)

1 package dry ranch dressing mix

1 full box saltine crackers (4 sleeves)

Mix oil, Tabasco sauce, and ranch dressing mix well. Put crackers in a larger container. Pour dressing mixture over

crackers. Rotate the container frequently to allow crackers to absorb the dressing evenly. Ready to serve when all oil is absorbed. Store in an air-tight container!

### GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE

1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup  
½ cup of milk

2 (14 ½ ounce) cans of green beans drained

1 1/3 cup French fried onions, divided

Preheat oven to 350. Combine soup and milk in 1 ½ quart baking dish, stir in beans and 2/3 cup French fried onions. Bake 25 minutes or until the bean mixture is hot and bubbling. Stir then sprinkle with remaining onions. Bake 5 minutes or until onions are golden brown.

### CREAMY CROCKPOT CRACK CHICKEN

2 lbs chicken breast

1 pkt ranch dressing mix  
1 8 oz block cream cheese  
½-3/4 cup cooked crumbled bacon depending on how much you like bacon  
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

4 green onions sliced  
In crockpot add your chicken, sprinkle with ranch and then place cream cheese on top. Cover and cook on low for 6-7 hours. Remove lid, shred chicken and stir in the

cream cheese. Add you cheddar cheese, bacon and green onions and give it a stir to combine. Serves on buns, croissants, tortillas, etc.



Alyssa, Austin, and Dorothy Jean Storey

## Just Among Friends

By MARIANNE ENOCHS  
friends@neshobademocrat.com

The student body at Leake Academy recently elected candidates for the 2021 Homecoming Celebration court which will be held on October 1, 2021 at Thaggard Field.

Freshmen candidates are Caroline Cheatham and Anna Young; Sophomores are Mad-die Liggett and CC Cumberland; Juniors are Addy Page and Parker Woods; Seniors and Candidates for Homecoming Queen are Sydney Sisson, Meredith Adams, and Carlyn Vaughn.

The presentation of the Homecoming Court and announcement of the Queen will begin at halftime during the Rebels game against Madison St. Joseph. Kickoff is at 7:00 PM on October 1.

Congratulations to Jarquez Hunter who made his first college touchdown during his first football game for the Auburn War Eagles! He ran for a 94 yard touchdown late in the game.

Jarquez, a running back, who wears #27 on his jersey, received the game ball for this game! It is a great honor given to the player for his performance during a game. He stepped up from the second team after the first team running back was injured. He led the team in rushing with eight

carries for 147 yards and a touchdown.

Auburn coach, Bryan Harsin, summarized Jarquez's performance in three simple words. "He can go!" he said.

Mark your calendars for the Philadelphia Neshoba County Arts Council's Dinner Theater, "An Evening of One Acts", on Thursday, September 30 at 6:00; Saturday, October 2, at 2:00; Saturday, October 2, at 6:00; Sunday, October 3, at 2:00. Performances will be held in the Senior Citizens Center at Northside Park.

The evening performances will be served a full meal. Matinee performances will be dessert only. Tickets will go on sale September 20 at The Depot or at the door before each performance. Please help by purchasing tickets in advance since there is limited seating. General admission is \$15.00 for evening performances, \$10.00 for matinees. PNC members' tickets are \$10.00 and \$5.00.

Come and enjoy a laughter filled event!

A joyous event for the Richard McKay family happened on September 12 when they received the news that their long awaited baby girl had finally arrived! Richard and Glynn went to the hospital to meet their new daughter. It

had not been an easy journey through the adoption process, but their faith was strong and they trusted that their heart's desire would be fulfilled.

She came home on Tuesday, September 14 where she was welcomed by her two big brothers, Fletcher and Isaac. She has been named Anna Margaret McKay and is a beautiful baby. Her Philadelphia grandparents are Don and Sharon McKay who are thrilled to have another grandchild. Congratulations and best wishes!

Congratulations to Jim and Annelle Rose who celebrated their 56th anniversary on September 16. They are former residents of Philadelphia who now live in Olive Branch, Mississippi. They were very active in the community for many years and raised a son and daughter here. Annelle has a lovely voice and was a member of the First United Methodist Church choir. Best wishes for many more years together

Call in your news to Just Among Friends, 601-656-4000, or mail it to the Democrat, P.O. Box 30, Philadelphia, 39350; friends@neshobademocrat.com



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Bigham named to ICC Homecoming Court

Members of the 2021 Itawamba Community College Homecoming Court include, front, from left, Sophomore Maid Lexie Kent of New Albany; Sophomore Maid Grace Beck of Guntown; Queen Bricelyn Morris of Nettleton; Sophomore Maid Haley Dean of Saltillo; Sophomore Maid Emma Cate Sparks of Saltillo; back, Freshman Maid Skylar Breland of Ripley; Freshman Maid Brooklyn O'Connor of Aberdeen; Freshman Maid Emma Grace Allen of Fulton; and Freshman Maid Zoe Bigham of Philadelphia.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF NESHOPA COUNTY**

You are invited to become a "2020 Dream Builder" for our youth by supporting the future of our boys & girls through club programs such as:

- Power Hour (Tutoring)
- Mentoring Program
- Healthy Habits/Choosing the Best
- Passport to Manhood/Smart Girls
- Money Matters/Field Trips/Activities
- After-School Program (City & County Schools):  
150+ children attend each day
- All-Day Summer Enrichment Program  
200+ children attend each day

Your donation is so appreciated and should be made payable to:

"Boys & Girls Club of Neshoba County"  
P.O. Box 313  
Philadelphia, MS 39350

For more info on how you can invest in our children, call  
601-656-4343.

For program info/enroll a child, call Jermaine Harris, County Unit  
Director, 601-880-6322.



*Using Social Security funds to hide the budget deficit is like combing someone else's hair over your bald spot.*

*Sign at an auto body shop:  
"Wreck-Amended."*

*Few of us ever test our powers of deduction, except when filling out a tax return.*

*Good leadership is knowing how much of the future can be introduced into the present.*

*It's no crime to be broke. It's just a little inconvenient around lunchtime.*



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**Joy Stewart, 601-500-0746  
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**THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT**



FELDER RUSHING

Non-native plants have roles in gardens

By FELDER RUSHING  
rushingfelder@yahoo.com

Like anyone else with emotionally charged agendas, native plant puritans can be a bit tedious. Sorry, not trying to rattle any cages or pull any chains. But sometimes sweeping assumptions need to be addressed by someone who cares enough to give a nod to see different sides of polarized issues. Including in the garden.

Today's rant: The assumption that native plants are superior to non-natives as garden mainstays is largely not true.

Keep in mind that this twice-past president of our native plant society grows many natives, and lectures on them from coast to coast. I believe in and promote their sense of place, ability to survive our climate, and support native wildlife plus other more subtle benefits to our complex natural world. Shoot me an email for my free publication on the most durable, garden-quality Mississippi natives.

I just don't buy into the unscientific, emotional idea that native plants are always better garden choices; without considering the pros and cons, trying to push a native plant over an exotic plant purely because it is native is irresponsible.

Sure, more than a few non-native plants are barren to our wildlife, and many have spread across the countryside, displacing natives and disrupting natural systems. But natives are also weedy, with oaks relentlessly trying to change my sunny garden into a shaded forest, and Virginia creeper eating up more than its share of real estate.

Worst of all, not all natives do well in man-made landscapes, or



Every flower in this English garden is a Mississippi native.

even over the entire state. We have plants that thrive on the coast but not in the Delta, others that are highly sensitive to sun or shade, and many better adapted to river bottoms but not drier hillsides. Many natives cannot survive in gardens with highly unnatural microclimates, deeply disturbed compacted soil, soil and air pollution, higher heat loads from paving and reflective surfaces, and competition with lawns.

On top of this, a lot garden-attractive natives are not all that easy to find commercially. Some look terrible in rows of pots - a big issue for garden centers which, even with labels saying a plant is native or beneficial to wildlife, are led by sales, not ecological values. You have to find local native plant sales to find really cool native plants.

In most cases people are just looking for plants that look good and hopefully thrive for a long time, with little regard for their origin; butterflies and bees are welcome lagniappe, but only if they don't also have larvae that booger up plants.

And truth is, many non-native plants are actually better suited to landscape use and are often superior for supporting wildlife. I mean, in spite of my many native wild-

flowers, some of which are crucial to native wildlife survival, when I want to take photos of butterflies and hummingbirds, I find them mostly on my zinnias, lantana, salvias, and abelias, all which grow well and flower for months, yet none of which are native.

Meanwhile, I believe that in the novel garden environment, a heady mixture of both native and non-native species can create a richer tapestry - a combination of native and non-native plant species can bring more vibrancy and joy, and also considerable value to native fauna.

Again, I support natives when practical; I find it interesting that I photograph more Mississippi wildflowers used well in English gardens than my own neighborhood.

Bottom line: I think the most responsible approach is to grow mostly what grows best in our area, with as many attractive natives as you can for wildlife as well as aesthetics. Just don't all righteous about it.

*Felder Rushing is a Mississippi author, columnist, and host of the "Gestalt Gardener" on MPB Think Radio. Email gardening questions to rushingfelder@yahoo.com.*

Of Local Interest

CENTRAL WATER ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Central Water Association will have its annual "Meeting of Members" at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 11, 2021 at the Central Water office located at 915 Valley View Drive. All members are welcome to attend.

GREENSBORO ANNUAL PARADE

Greensboro Annual Parade and Celebration will be held on Oct 2. Parade line-up starts at 9am. Parade participants will assemble at Lee's Place located at 13759 Hwy 14 West, Louisville, MS. The parade will start promptly at 10am. For more information contact Joan Eiland 662.312.9434.

NESHOPA COUNTY SWCD NOW TAKING TREE ORDERS

The Neshoba County Soil and Water Conservation Dis-

trict will be taking tree orders through November 30th, 2021.

Order forms are available from 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday outside the office or you can call 601-656-8783 Ext. 3 and we will e-mail or mail you an order form to you. The office is located at 511 East Lawn Drive in the USDA Building. We are asking that you pay for the trees when placing your order. You may drop off your payment and order form in a drop box outside of the front door.

The trees are bare root trees and will arrive in February 2022. By ordering bulk wholesale we can pass the savings on to you. Proceeds from tree sales will help support educational programs throughout the year.

If you have any questions, call 601-656-8783 Ext.3.

CHURCH REVIVAL

Mt. Olive Baptist Church in the Stephentown Commu-

nity will hold a revival on September 26-29, 2021. The following pastors will be bringing the messages: Bro Joel Embrey will bring the message Sunday night at 6:00PM; Bro J.R. Eaton will bring the message Monday night at 7:00PM; Bro David Addy will bring the message Tuesday night at 7:00PM; Bro Joseph Knight will bring the message Wednesday night at 7:00PM. Everyone is invited to come and hear God's Word.

FAMILY REUNION

Thomas Caradine Family Reunion Saturday, October 16, 2021 at Lake Tiak-O'Khata 10:am. Extended Families -Elisha Fedrick, McCrory, Barrett, Hembree and others, everyone welcome. For more information , Contact Barbara Caradine 205 921-4141 or Susan 601 504 0055.

FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

The Neshoba County Forestry Association will hold its Annual Fall Meeting on Tuesday, September 28th at 6 p.m. at the Neshoba County Coliseum. Tedrick Ratcliff, Executive Vice-President of MFA, will be our guest speaker where he will discuss "Forestry, Today, Tomorrow, and the Next Decade". People from all aspects of forestry will benefit from this presentation and are encouraged to attend. Penn's Restaurant will be providing Catfish and Shrimp for this event! Membership dues for the association are \$20 per year and will be accepted at the meeting. Please call the Neshoba County Extension office at (601)-656-4011 to pre-register for the meeting by Monday, September 27th, so we will know how much food to prepare.

REUNION CANCELLED

The 2021 Kea/Fryery reunion is cancelled due to Covid 19. Hope to see everyone in 2022.

FAMILY REUNION

The Family of Henry N. and Carrie E. (Fortenberry) Warren will be holding a family reunion on 09 October 2021 at 11:00. Reunion will be held at North Side Park under a pavilion. In the event of bad weather will be held in the cabin.

For more information contact Susan Shoffner at (601) 562-1769 or (601) 656-4594.

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# Make veterinary visits easier for pets, owners

People often get anxious about visiting the doctor, and the same can be said for pets. According to the online animal resource Top Dog Tips, a lot of dogs and cats have serious anxiety about going to the vet.

Veterinarian visits typically happen once per year, and the earlier your pet can become more comfortable and acclimated to the process, the better it will behave during each sub-

sequent visit. The following are some steps pet owners can take to make vet visits go smoothly.

- Handle your pet frequently. Teach your pet to accept touching of the paws, ears, mouth, tail, legs, and stomach. Regular sessions petting and touching your pet may make him or her more comfortable when the vet has to do so.
- Consider waiting outside. Research from Companion

Animal Psychology says 30 percent of dogs are highly stressed while sitting in the waiting room of the vet's office. It can be hectic in the waiting room, with lots of new smells, people coming in and out and animals with all sorts of energy. If waiting rooms put your pet on edge, wait outside.

- Associate the carrier with comfort. If you pull out the crate only when the pet will be

going to the vet, the animal will soon associate it with negative experiences. Instead, use the crate frequently and rely on treats so that the dog or cat sees it as a safe and fun space to spend its time. Take frequent car rides to different destinations so pets don't associate car rides with vet visits.

- Find the right veterinarian. Interview several vets to find an office and staff who love inter-

acting with your pet and can make him or her comfortable.

- Stay relaxed yourself. Pets can sense their owner's energy. If you are worked up and anxious, then your animal may feed off of those feelings. By remaining calm, you can help keep your pet calm.
- Do a fun or practice visit. Acclimate the pet to the vet's office with a trial run. This way he or she can interact with the

vet and learn the smells and sounds under less stressful conditions. This is a great way for the pet to have a positive initial experience with its new vet.

Vet visits are vital to pets' long-term health. Setting the stage for positive experiences early on can make visits go smoothly throughout the pet's life.

## Public Notices

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE INTEREST OF  
W.D.D., A MINOR

REBECCA HALL, PETITIONER  
CAUSE NO. 21-247

### SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO:  
The Putative Father of W.D.D.  
a minor child named in the Petition

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT(S)

THE COMPLAINT OR PETITION WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said *PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN(S) OF A MINOR UNDER SECTION 202 AND FOR OTHER RELIEF* at 9:00 o'clock, a.m., on the 18 th day of November, 2021, in the courtroom of the Neshoba County Courthouse at Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 20 th day of September, 2021.

/s/ Guy Nowell  
GUY NOWELL, Chancery Court Clerk  
Neshoba County, Mississippi

Synopsis of Philadelphia Public School District Budget 2021-2022  
The Board of Education of the Philadelphia Public School District recently approved the budget for the 2021-2022 school year. The approved revenues and expenditures are as follows:

REVENUES:	
_____Local	sources
3,950,640.24	
_____Intermediate sources	
_____State	sources
4,863,443.00	
_____Federal	sources
9,286,038.42	
_____16th section	30,000.00
_____Total	Revenues
18,130,121.66	
EXPENDITURES:	
_____Instruction	11,006,389.40
_____Support	services
4,770,650.60	
_____Noninstructional	services
695,095.63	
_____Facilities acquisition and construction	1,704,328.00
_____Debt service	315,506.47
_____Total	Expenditures
18,491,970.10	

## INVITATION FOR BIDS HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS

Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Trustees, Neshoba County School District, 580 East Main Street, Philadelphia, Mississippi, up to and not later than 10:00 a.m., Friday, October 8, 2021 for hunting and fishing rights for a five year period on the following parcel of land in Neshoba County, Mississippi.

All the forest land lying in the W % of SE % of NE %; all the forest land lying in the SE % of SE % of NE 1/4, Section 16, Township 10N, Range 11E containing 22 acres, more or less, in Neshoba County, Mississippi, and identified as parcel # 17.02 on Map 95 of the Neshoba County Tax Assessor plat maps.

Bids will be opened and read at the date and time specified for acceptance. Complete information concerning the lease and the lease bid form can be obtained from the office of the Superintendent, 580 East Main Street, Philadelphia, Mississippi, 39350. The minimum bid that will be considered is \$6.00 per acre per year. A bid form and a check for the bid amount will be required at opening.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Neshoba County School District Lundy Brantley, Superintendent  
Publish on: September 22 and 29, 2021

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF SHIRLEY ANN BENN, DECEASED

DENISE JOHN AND  
MELANIE DIANNE BENN  
CAUSE NO.:2021-140

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been

## Public Notices

granted on the 2nd day of September, 2021, by the Court Clerk of the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, to the undersigned upon Shirley Ann Benn, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from this date or they will be forever barred.

/s/DENISE JOHN  
CO-ADMINISTRATRIX

/s/MELANIE DIANNE BENN  
CO-ADMINISTRATRIX

Prepared By:  
  
STEVEN D. SETTLEMIRE  
ATTORNEY FOR ADMINISTRATOR  
SettleMires & Graham, PLLC  
410 East Beacon Street  
Philadelphia, MS 39350  
(601) 656-9597  
MSBN: 99674

IN CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
GREGORY KEITH TUBBY, DECEASED  
CIVIL ACTION  
NO. 2021-189

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 5 th day of May, 2021 by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned Winter Tubby, upon the Estate of Gregory Keith Tubby, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to probate and register the same, as provided by law, with the clerk of the court, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this Notice. Failure to probate and register any such claim within said ninety (90) day period will forever bar the claim.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE this the 31 st day of August, 2021.

/s/ WINTER TUBBY  
WINTER TUBBY  
Administratrix of the Estate  
Of Gregory Keith Tubby, deceased

Submitted by:  
MARY A. NARRON, MSB #9994  
P.O. BOX 6212  
Choctaw, MS 39350  
PHONE: (601) 259-7849  
Attorney for Administratrix

THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY  
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TRUETT ROBERTSON  
CAUSE NO. 20-179-KK

MIKE ROBERTSON AND KATHY ROBERTSON, PETITIONERS

### SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: **The Unknown Heirs of Truett Robertson**

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT(S)

THE COMPLAINT OR PETITION WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said complaint or petition at 9:00 o'clock, a.m., on the 13 th day of October, 2021, in the courtroom of the Neshoba County Courthouse at Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 1 st day of September, 2021.

/s/ Guy Nowell by G. Tate D.C.  
GUY NOWELL, Chancery Court Clerk  
Neshoba County, Mississippi

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF DUDLEY STENNIS, DECEASED  
CAUSE NO.: 2021-154

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, on the Estate of Dudley Stennis, Deceased, on the 12th day of July, 2021, notice is hereby given to

all persons having claims against the said Estate to have their claims probated and registered by the Clerk of the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, and that failure to probate and register their claims with the Clerk within that time will forever bar the claim.  
WITNESS MY SIGNATURE this the 4th day of September, 2021.

/s/Willie B. Stennis Henderson  
WILLIE B. STENNIS HENDERSON  
EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF DUDLEY STENNIS

Prepared by:  
DOUGLAS J. GRAHAM  
SETTLEMIRE & GRAHAM, PLLC  
410 East Beacon Street  
Philadelphia, MS 39350  
(601) 656-9597  
MSBN: 101965

ELC - 2 (Revised 1/17/90)  
Exhibit 2

### NOTICE OF ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 69-27-31, Mississippi Code 1972 Annotated, an special election will be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 to elect one (1) commissioner for the Neshoba County Soil and Water Conservation District from beat \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_.

### VOTING PLACE - TIME - LOCATION

Beat #: \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Place:  
Hope Country Store  
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.  
Location: 1290 Hwy. 488 W. Philadelphia, MS 39350  
Beat #: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Place:  
Bobby's Country Store  
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.

Location: 11110 Hwy. 16 East, Philadelphia, MS 39350

Beat #: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Place:  
Neshoba County SWCD  
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.  
Location: 511 East Lawn Drive, Philadelphia, MS 39350  
Beat #: \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Place:  
Tree Lady Nursery  
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.

Location: 10291 Road 246, Union, MS 39365

Beat #: \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
Place:  
Smith's Bargain Center  
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.  
Location: 1121 Kosciusko Road, Philadelphia, MS 39350

Signed by Authority of the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission as recorded in its minutes of November 17, 2020

Nick Ivy  
Executive Director, MSWCC

**NOTE TO THE EDITOR:** This notice is to be published pursuant to section 25-7-65, Mississippi Code 1972 Annotated, three (3) times in THE LEGAL NOTICE SECTION prior to the election, with a lapse of seven (7) days between each publication. Send Proof of Publication and bill to: Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission  
680 Monroe St. Suite B  
Jackson, MS 39202

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Marty Stuart Congress of Country Music, Inc. until 2:00 p.m. CST, October 14, 2021 for the Project shown below. The location of receipt of bids will be the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors Board Room at 401 E. Beacon Street, Suite 201 Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350. Plans and Specifications Entitled: Marty Stuart Congress of Country Music - Ellis Theater Renovations  
311 Byrd Avenue  
Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350  
Bid Package Include:  
**Mechanical and Plumbing Package**  
The Bid Package contract will be issued between the Owner and the successful Contractor. This package shall include all bonds and taxes as required by the contract documents and the State of Mississippi. Proposals shall be submitted on form furnished and sealed and deposited with the Marty Stuart Congress of Country Music, Inc. prior to the hour and date above designated. Bids must be accompanied by bid bond or certified check for at least five percent (5%) of the base bid payable to the Marty Stuart Congress of Country Music, Inc. as bid security. No bid may be withdrawn for 45 days after the actual

date of the bid opening.  
All bids must comply with applicable laws of the State of Mississippi and shall include the Contractor's Certificate of Responsibility Number, which must be displayed on outside of the sealed envelope. A performance and payment bond for one hundred percent (100%) of the contract sum will be required of the successful bidder. Bid preparation shall be in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The Owner reserves the right to waive any and all informalities or to reject any or all bids submitted

**An official pre-bid meeting will not be held. However, any who wish to view the existing conditions can contact Caleb Page at 601-917-1661 to schedule a walk through**

Electronic bids can be submitted at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com) . For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

A copy of the Bid Documents (including plans and specifications for the Work) are available via digital and/or hard copy sets. Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents from the Jackson Blueprint online Plan Room website; [planroom.jaxb.lue.com](http://planroom.jaxb.lue.com). There is no charge for registration or to view the bid documents online. A printed set of bid documents is available for purchase at <http://planroom.jaxb.lue.com> or at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com) A digital PDF set is also available to download at no cost.

OWNER:  
Marty Stuart Congress for County Music, Inc.  
256 West Beacon Street  
Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350  
ARCHITECT:  
Nick Dryden  
Dryden Architecture + Design, PLLC  
2520 White Avenue  
Nashville, TN 37204  
<https://dryden.studio/>  
[nick@dryden.studio](mailto:nick@dryden.studio)  
ENGINEER:  
Yates Engineering Corporation  
One Gully Avenue  
Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350  
Telephone: 601-656-5411  
CONSTRUCTION MANAGER:  
W. G. Yates & Sons Construction Company  
One Gully Avenue  
Philadelphia, Mississippi  
Telephone: 601-656-5411  
DATES OF ADVERTISEMENT:  
September 15, 2021  
September 22, 2021

THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY  
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MELBA ROBERTSON  
CAUSE NO. 20-178-KK

MIKE ROBERTSON AND KATHY ROBERTSON, PETITIONERS

### SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: **The Unknown Heirs of Melba Robertson**

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT(S)

THE COMPLAINT OR PETITION WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said complaint or petition at 9:00 o'clock, a.m., on the 13 th day of October, 2021, in the courtroom of the Neshoba County Courthouse at Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 1 st day of September, 2021.

/s/ Guy Nowell by G. Tate D.C.  
GUY NOWELL, Chancery Court Clerk  
Neshoba County, Mississippi

**Case Number: 16615**  
Applicant Name: MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

*Public Notice to Acquire Land into Trust - BIA Regional Director Decisions (for publication in the local newspaper)*  
ACTION: Notice of decision to acquire land into trust under 25 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 151.

SUMMARY: The Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, on the below date, has made a determination to acquire real property in trust for MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS.

The land referred to as former LAURA POWE 2 property, herein and is

described as: See "Exhibit A" for legal descriptions.  
DATE: This determination was made on 09/03/2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: BIA EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 545 MARRIOTT DRIVE, SUITE 700, NASHVILLE, TN 37214, telephone (615) 564-6500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published to comply with the requirement of 25 CFR§ 151.12(d) (2)(iii) that notice be given of the decision by the authorized representative of the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land in trust.

A copy of the determination is available [at the following website: [n/a](http://n/a) AND/OR from the office identified in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION section of this notice]. Any party who wishes to seek judicial review of the Regional Director's decision must first exhaust administrative remedies. The Regional Director's decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA) in accordance with the regulations in 43 C.F.R. 4.310-4.340.

If you choose to appeal this decision, your notice of appeal to the IBIA must be signed by you or your attorney and **must be either postmarked and mailed (if you use mail) or delivered (if you use another means of physical delivery, such as FedEx or UPS) to the IBIA within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.** The regulations do not authorize filings by facsimile/fax or by electronic means. Your notice of appeal should clearly identify the decision being appealed. You must send your **original** notice of appeal to the IBIA at the following address: Interior Board of Indian Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy Street, Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia 22203. You must send **copies** of your notice of appeal to (1) the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, MS-4141-MIB, 1849 C Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240; (2) each interested party known to you; and (3) the Regional Director. Your notice of appeal sent to the IBIA must include a statement certifying that you have sent copies to these officials and interested parties and should identify them by names or titles and addresses.

If you file a notice of appeal, the IBIA will notify you of further procedures. If no appeal is timely filed, this decision will become final for the Department of the Interior at the expiration of the appeal period. No extension of time may be granted for filing a notice of appeal.

PNRDD01 **"B ; S ; 78 ; 040 ; 4200199949 ; 16615 ; 980T980050"**  
**Office Codes: 8,S,78,040 AD Number: 4200199949 Case: 16615**  
Case Number: 16615  
Applicant Name: MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

LEGAL DESCRIPTION EXHIBIT A

**Tract ID:**  
**Tract Name: LAURA POWE 2 PROPERTY**  
Land Area 040 Land Area Name  
CHOCTAW Tract Number LTRO  
ANADARKO, OK

Region \_\_\_\_\_ EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE \_\_\_\_\_ Agency CHOCTAW AGENCY

Resources Both (Mineral and Surface)

Section 22 Township  
010.00N Range 012.00E State  
MISSISSIPPI County NESHOPA

Meridian Choctaw Legal Description  
Acres .280

METES AND BOUNDS: From a Bureau of Land Management monument marking the SW corner of the NE¼NW¼, Section 22, T. 10 N., R. 12 E., Neshoba County, MS., run North for 664.27'; then run East for 333.53' to a point on the west side of "Indian Road", said point being on the north line of the present Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indian property and is the point of beginning. Then run along the west side of "Indian Road" N 0 degrees 18' 13" E for 88.53'; then run along the west side of said road N 2 degrees 27' 44" E for 89.09' to the west right-of-way of Mississippi Highway No. 19; then run along said right-of-way S 37 degrees 25' 35" E for 38.53' to a concrete right-of-way monument; then run along said right-of-way S 37 degrees 09' 26" E for 94.28' to a concrete right-of-way monument; then run along said right-of-way S 35 degrees 16' 35" E for 87.95' to the north line of the present Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indian property; then run West for 135.45' to the point of beginning. This parcel contains 0.28 acre, more or less, and is situated in the NE¼NW¼, Section 22, T. 10 N., R. 12 E., Neshoba County, MS.

**INVITATION FOR BIDS HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS**  
Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Trustees, Neshoba County

School District, 580 East Main Street, Philadelphia, Mississippi, up to and not later than **10:00 a.m., Friday, October 8, 2021** for hunting and fishing rights for a five year period on the following parcel of land in Neshoba County, Mississippi.

Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 12 East  
Commence at a point where County Road 2232 intersects the West line of NE ¼ of NE ¼ of Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 12 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi, this being the Point of Beginning. Thence run in a Southwesterly direction along County Road 2832, a distance of 800.0 feet; thence run South a distance of 75.0 feet; thence run East a distance of 810.0 feet; thence run North to County Road 2232 and the Point of Beginning, containing 5.0 acres more or less and further described as Parcel 1.01 on Map 131 of the Neshoba County Tax Assessor plat maps.

Bids will be opened and read at the date and time specified for acceptance. Complete information concerning the lease and the lease bid form can be obtained from the office of the Superintendent, 580 East Main Street, Philadelphia, Mississippi, 39350. The minimum bid that will be considered is \$6.00 per acre per year.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Neshoba County School District  
Lundy Brantley, Superintendent

**Publish on: September 22 and 29, 2021**

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY  
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
MONICA D. RAMSEY, PLAINTIFF  
V.S. CAUSE NO. 21-237-KK  
ERIC ALEXANDER RAMSEY, DEFENDANT  
**SUMMONS**  
**TO: ERIC ALEXANDER RAMSEY**  
**1346 DICKENS STREET**  
**FAR ROCKAWAY, NY 11691**  
**NOTICE TO DEFENDANT**  
**THE COMPLAINT WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.**

You are required to mail or hand-deliver a copy of a written response to the Complaint to Stella Hurtt, the attorney for the Plaintiff, whose post office and street address is 1909 6th Street, Meridian, MS 39301. Your response must be mailed or delivered within (30) days from the date of delivery of this summons and complaint or a judgment by default will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint.

You must also file the original of your response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time afterward. Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, this 19th day of August, 2021.  
GUY NOWELL, CHANCERY CLERK  
NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI  
PREPARED BY:  
STELLA HURTT (MSBN:104325)  
1909 6TH STREET, MERIDIAN, MS 39301  
601-483-4144

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY  
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MALCOLM ISAAC CHRISTOPHER TUBBY, PETITIONER  
CAUSE NO. 21-12  
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION  
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
To: All unknown Heirs-at-Law of Malcolm Isaac  
YOU HAVE BEEN MADE A DEFENDANT IN THE SUIT FILED  
IN THIS COURT BY CHRISTOPHER TUBBY, PETITIONER SEEKING A DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP OF MALCOLM ISAAC.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock a.m., on the 21st day of October, 2021, before Honorable Joseph Kilgore, Chancery Judge of the Neshoba County Chancery Court located in Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in this petition. You are not required to file an answer or other pleading, but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 8th day of September, 2021.  
Guy Nowell, Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, MS  
by: s/W Savell, D.C.

Dates of Publication: 3 times  
Submitted by Terry L. Jordan  
Attorney at Law, MS Bar #3234  
P. O. Drawer 459  
Philadelphia, MS 39350  
Phone (601) 656-2451



# Eat healthy while enjoying classic favorite dishes

By DENISE SWOGETINSKY  
Special to the Democrat

This week we will explore some healthy ways to enjoy some classic dishes we grew up with.

- LOW CARB MEATLOAF**  
1 1/2 lbs ground beef  
1/3 cup red onions chopped  
1/2 cup pork rinds crushed  
1/3 teaspoon ground pepper  
2 teaspoons minced garlic  
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce  
1 1/2 teaspoons ground mustard  
1 1/2 teaspoons chili powder

- 4 oz tomato sauce  
2 eggs  
1/3 cup ketchup  
Preheat oven to 375.  
In a large bowl, combine all ingredients but ketchup.  
Place mixture in a 5x9 inch loaf pan. Press and shape into a loaf shape.  
Bake for 45-50 minutes or until reaching desired texture. Let cool for 2-5 minutes.  
Spread ketchup on loaf. Cut and serve or remove from loaf pan and then cut and serve.

- AIR FRYER LOW CARB FRIED CHICKEN**  
1/4 cup coconut flour  
1/2 teaspoon sea salt

- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper  
2 large eggs  
1 cup pork rinds (2.25 oz)  
1 teaspoon smoked paprika  
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder  
1/4 teaspoon dried thyme  
Stir the coconut flour, sea salt and black pepper in a medium shallow bowl. Set aside.  
In a second medium bowl, whisk together the eggs. Set aside.  
In a third bowl, mix the crushed pork rinds, smoked paprika, garlic powder and thyme.  
Dredge the chicken pieces in the coconut flour mixture, dip in the eggs, shake off the excess, then press into the pork rind

mixture. For best results, keep most of the third mixture in a separate bowl and add a little at a time to the bowl where you'll be coating the chicken. That way, it won't get clumpy too fast.  
Preheat the air fryer at 400 degrees F (204 degrees C) for 5 minutes. Lightly grease the metal basket and arrange the breaded chicken on it in a single layer, without touching.  
Place the basket into the air fryer. Cook the fried chicken in the air fryer for 20 minutes, until it reaches an internal temperature of 165 degrees F

- LOW CARB LASAGNA**  
6 eggs  
1 link Italian sausage  
1 cup marinara (see notes for low carb)  
1/2 cup whole milk ricotta  
1 clove garlic, crushed  
1/2 cup baby spinach, chopped  
1 cup shredded mozzarella  
Preheat oven to 350 degree F.  
Heat up two non stick frying pans. Add cooking spray to both and In the small one, add a beaten egg and swirl around to make a crepe. Flip over into the other pan and finish cooking. Should only take a minute or so per side. Do this for 5 eggs to make crepes.

In a sauce pan, brown the sausage after taking the casing off. Add in garlic and then marinara sauce. Let cook through for a few minutes and then take off stove.  
In a bowl add the ricotta, 1 beaten egg and spinach. Mix well and set aside.  
Spray cooking spray all over a small springform pan. Add 1 crepe then top with 1/3 cup of meat sauce. Add next crepe and top with ricotta mixture then 1/3 cup of the mozzarella. Add one more layer of each and then top with remaining sauce and then remaining mozzarella.  
Bake for 30 minutes then let sit for 15 minutes before cutting.

## National Hunting and Fishing Day celebrates the outdoors

By C. SCOTT BOUNDS  
Special to the Democrat

Saturday, September 25 marks our nation's 49th Annual National Hunting and Fishing Day (NHFD). Signed as an official Presidential Proclamation by President Richard Nixon in 1972, NHFD is a great opportunity to come together and recognize the historical and ongoing contributions of the original conservationists – hunters and anglers. Likewise, NHFD is another chance to highlight the availability of safe outdoor recreation opportunities that many Americans have turned to during the COVID-19 pandemic. While some are eager to return to a sense of normalcy, NHFD is a reminder that these opportunities are still available for all of us to enjoy.

As a Co-Chair of the Mississippi Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus and as a member of the 49 state National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses, my fellow Caucus Co-Chairs and I are proud to take time to celebrate the time-honored traditions of hunting and angling. On this day, we ask our fellow Mississippians to join the 110 House & Senate Mississippi Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus members and our private partners in recognizing the tremendous dedication that our state's sportsmen and women bring to the conservation of our natural resources.  
Mississippi's hunters and anglers are the primary source of conservation funding for The Magnolia State. Through the purchase of licenses, tags, and stamps, and by paying self-

imposed excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, fishing tackle, electric trolling motors and motorboat fuel, hunters and anglers drive conservation funding in Mississippi and the United States, through the American System of Conservation Funding (ASCF), a unique "user pays – public benefits" program.  
Last year alone, contributions through the ASCF generated \$31.74 million to fund state conservation efforts through the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks. All Mississippians benefit from these funds through improved access to public lands, public shooting ranges, improved soil and water quality, habitat restoration, fish and wildlife research, habitat man-

agement on public and private lands, hunter education, boat access area construction and many other Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks projects funded through this program.  
Hunting and angling are also a significant economic driver for our state. Mississippi's sportsmen and women spend over \$2.2 billion per year on their outdoor pursuits, supporting 33,584 jobs in the state and contributing \$187 million in state and local taxes. Additionally, 2017 data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis shows that, on the national level, sportsmen and women spent more than \$19 billion on hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting, which doesn't include trip-related spending or license fees that were necessary for

their participation. This spending is critical to the outdoor economy, which comprised 2.4% of Mississippi's GDP that same year.  
As has been discovered (or rediscovered) by many during the COVID-19 pandemic, hunting and fishing produce countless benefits for an individual's physical and mental health. As a sporting community we celebrate those that have decided to join us afield or on the water, and welcome new participants, both young and old, to our time-honored traditions. Hunting and fishing are great ways of procuring organic, sustainable, locally-sourced food for the entire family while simultaneously contributing to the conservation of our abundant natural resources for future generations.

For more information on hunting and fishing opportunities in Mississippi please visit the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks' website. More information on National Hunting and Fishing Day is available at [www.NHF-Day.org](http://www.NHF-Day.org) or on the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation website at <https://congressional-sportsmen.org/policies/national-hunting-and-fishing-day>.

C. Scott Bounds is the Mississippi representative for District 44, which encompasses Neshoba and Leake counties. He serves as Chairman of the House Public Utilities Committee and Co-Chair of the MS Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus.

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# Sports



PHOTO BY LEROY CLEMONS

Philadelphia's Andrew Carter looks for running room through the Winona defense.

## Tornadoes try to regroup following Winona loss

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY  
steve@neshobademocrat.com

This will be a week of soul searching for the Philadelphia High School football team as they regroup following Friday night's 57-14 loss to Class 3A powerhouse Winona.

The Tornadoes, now 2-2, will be back home Friday night when they host West Lauderdale. The Knights come in with a 3-1 record following their 49-15 win over Southeast Lauderdale last week.

"We got embarrassed but it could have been different," Coach David Frey said. "We had turnovers on offense and our defense couldn't stop them. We aren't there yet. We could have played with them.

"When the offense is clicking and we don't have turnovers, we are in the game. We are going to have to step up. And if we don't against West Lauderdale, it's going to be another long night."

The first quarter was scoreless but Winona scored three touchdowns in a

row in the second quarter to go up 21-0. Philadelphia got on the scoreboard when quarterback Marcus Beamon scored on a two-yard run. Adrian Luke kicked the extra points and the Tornadoes trailed 21-7 at the half.

Winona settled the issue in the third quarter with three unanswered touchdowns and led 42-7 going into the final quarter.

The Tigers added a touchdown in the fourth quarter. Then the Tornadoes scored again when Beamon ran in from six yards out. Luke's kick was

good and the Tornadoes trailed 49-14 with 10:29 left to play. The Tigers would add one more touchdown.

Frey said the Tornadoes would go back to work on the practice field, adding there would be some formation changes coming.

"I expect we will play better this week," Frey said. "This team has worked hard. They came in Sunday and watched the film. We'll learn from this and move on."

## Lady Rebels wrap up another district title

By ROBBIE ROBERTSON  
sports@neshobademocrat.com

The Leake Academy softball team only managed one win last week but it was a big one.

The Lady Rebels beat Simpson 9-7 on Monday as they secured another district championship.

Leake also played in the Jackson Prep Tournament, falling 5-1 to Marshall and tying Copiah 4-4.

Leake will return home this week as they host Park Place on Monday and East Rankin on Tuesday to round out the regular season.

Leake will then be a No. 1 seed and play in the North 5A tournament on Saturday and Monday at Magnolia Heights.

### Lady Rebels 9 Simpson 7

The Lady Rebels held off a late charge from the Lady Cougars to take a two-run win on Monday.

Leake scored one in the first, three in the third and one in the fourth to lead 5-0. But Simpson scored three in the fifth and two in the sixth to tie the game at 5-5. Leake then scored four in the top of the seventh and held Simpson to two in the bottom of the frame for the final margin.

Leake had nine hits in the contest and took advantage of four errors by Simpson.

Lily McDonald was 4-for-4 and scored two runs while Miley Billie homered and scored two runs. Olivia Rudolph and Emmajane Lepard each

doubled and drove in two runs while Raylea Atkinson also doubled.

Lynleigh Burt pitched all seven innings as she scattered 13 hits and four walks while striking out six.

### Marshall 5 Lady Rebels 1

The Lady Patriots scored early and held on to take a four-run win over the Lady Rebels on Saturday at the Jackson Prep Tournament at the Magee Sportsplex.

Marshall scored two in the first and three in the third while Leake scored one in the fourth.

Marshall outhit Leake 7-6 in the contest. Miley Billie was 2-for-3 with a double while Emery Warren was also 2-for-3. 25 doubled and scored a run

### Lady Rebels 4 Copiah 4

The Lady Rebels scored two runs in the fifth and tied with the Lady Colonels on Saturday in a time-limit game.

Copiah scored one in the second and three in the fourth. Leake scored two in the third and fifth innings.

Leake had just five hits as Miley Billie was 2-for-3 with two RBIs. Emery Warren singled and drove in two runs while Caroline Cheatham singled and scored two runs.

## Rockets remain undefeated with 48-14 win over Holmes Co.

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY  
steve@neshobademocrat.com

The Neshoba Central Rockets improved to 4-0 as they defeated Holmes County Central 48-14 on the road Friday night in a Region 2-5A contest.

Senior quarterback Eli Anderson had another big night as he threw for three touchdowns and ran for two more. He completed 9-of-14 passes for 198 yards and ran for 51 yards on five carries. The Rockets rushed 26 times for 189 yards, finishing the night with 387 total yards and 11 first downs.

Holmes County took the opening kickoff and drove 80 yards in eight plays for a touchdown. The touchdown came on a 15-yard TD pass. The extra point was no good and the Jaguars led 6-0 with 8:33 left in the first quarter.

Three plays later, Anderson connected with Bryceton Spencer on a 71-yard pass that put the ball on the Holmes 1-yard line. On the next play,

Anderson ran it in for a touchdown with 7:30 left in the first quarter. Hunter Bavetta kicked the extra point and the Rockets led 7-6.

Later in the first quarter, Anderson ran 30 yards for a touchdown. Bavetta kicked the extra point and the Rockets led 14-6 with 2:51 left in the first quarter.

In the second quarter, the Rockets' Demarquez West recovered a fumble and Neshoba Central took over on the Holmes five-yard line. On the next play, Anderson ran it in. Bavetta kicked the extra point and the Rockets led 21-6 with 10:34 left in the second quarter.

On the next Neshoba Central possession, Anderson passed to Dez McWilliams on a 33-yard TD pass play. Bavetta's kick was good and the Rockets led 28-6.

Holmes County scored on a 43-yard TD pass play. The Jaguars scored on the 2-point conversion and trailed 28-14 at the half.

McWilliams intercepted a Holmes County pass to set up the only score of



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE WARD PEEBLES

Neshoba Central defensive lineman Maxton Woodward follows the ball carrier

the third quarter. Spencer ran it in from four yards out. The kick failed and the Rockets led 34-14 with 5:15 left in the third quarter.

Neshoba Central opened the fourth quarter with a 21-yard TD pass from

Anderson to Ja'Naylon Dupree. Bavetta kicked the extra point and the Rockets led 41-14 with 11:43 remaining.

The Rockets recovered a fumble on the Holmes eight-yard line. Zander Kirkland ran it in for the touchdown. Bavetta kicked the extra point to end the scoring.

Spencer finished with four catches for 110 yards while Dupree had four catches for 55 yards. McWilliams had one catch for 33 yards. Kirkland rushed for 96 yards on 13 carries.

Defensively, McWilliams had five tackles, two assists, two pass breakups and two interceptions. Elijah Ruffin had four tackles, one assist and one pass breakup. Beau Holley had one tackle and five assists. Kelbee Holmes had three tackles for loss and five assists.

The Rockets now turn their attention to Friday night's game against Provine. The Rams stand at 1-3 following Friday night's loss to Ridgeland. The game will be played 42-0 loss at the Forest Hill field.

## Choctaw Central Warriors best Lake in defensive matchup

By ROBBIE ROBERTSON  
sports@neshobademocrat.com

The Choctaw Central Warriors claimed their second victory in a row as they defeated the Lake Hornets 9-7 Friday night in prep football action.

The Warriors, now 2-1, will be off this week. They return to action Oct. 1 when they host Kosciusko in a Region 4-4A game.

The Lake Hornets fell behind early and dropped a 9-7 decision to Choctaw Central on Friday

night. Lake will return to play this week as they take on Class 2A favorite Scott Central.

Choctaw got the ball to open the game and went 76 yards in six plays as Eli Joe threw a 32-yard touchdown pass with 6:56 left in the first. The PAT failed and Choctaw led 6-0.

After a three and out by Lake, Choctaw put together another long drive, going 12 plays before kicking a 32-yard field goal early in the second quarter to take a 9-0 lead.

Both teams put together long

drives before swapping interceptions in the second quarter as the Warriors took a 9-0 lead into the half.

Lake got the ball to start the second half and put together its best drive of the game, going 67 yards in eight plays as Cornelius Mayers scored on a 12-yard run with 8:15 left in the third. Frank Pazos hit the PAT and Lake trailed 9-7.

That was the last of the scoring as Lake had two turnovers in the second half. The Hornets did put together an 11-play drive in the fourth but eventu-

ally turned the ball over on downs.

The Hornets had just 189 yards of total offense as Mayers led the way with 109 yards on 18 carries and two catches for 52 yards. Brady McGee was 4-of-9 for 72 yards passing.

Choctaw had 202 yards rushing and 74 passing for 276 yards of offense. Joe had 43 yards rushing on 21 carries while the other Choctaw backs had 167 yards on 21 carries. John was 11 of 16 passing for 74 yards with one TD and two interceptions.

## Ogletree to play in Sanderson Farms tourney

By DALE MCKEE  
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The 2021 Sanderson Farms Championship will be held next week at the Jackson Country Club.

The 2020 champion Sergio Garcia will be back to defend his crown. Garcia also won the 2017 Masters Championship.

Additionally in the field is Mississippian Andy Ogletree of the Little Rock community. He was the low amateur at the 2020 Masters and won the 2019 U.S. Amateur Championship. Other notable entries are past U.S. Open Champions Webb Simpson, Gary Woodland and Lucas Glover. Zach Johnson, winner of the 2007 Masters and the 2015 Open, and Jimmy Walker, winner of the 2016 PGA Championship, will be in attendance. 2021 PGA Tour Rookie and Master runner-up Will Zalatoris is in the field as well.

Four other Mississippians will join Ogletree in the field: Chad Ramey of Fulton, Davis Riley of Hattiesburg, Hayden Buckley of Tupelo and Cohen Trolie of West Point native who is a State Amateur champ.

### Corral leads Rebels

Ole Miss quarterback Matt Corral ran for four scores and passed for three more in leading the Rebels to a rather easy 61-21 win over Tulane. The Rebels moved up to No. 13 in the AP football poll and have an open date this week before heading to Alabama the following week. Mississippi State (2-1) lost on two officiating mistakes on a 94-yard punt return, 31-29, to the Tigers. State will host LSU (2-1) this Saturday morning. Southern Mississippi (1-2) ended the night with only 156 yards of total offense in losing at home to Troy, 21-9. Freshman quarterback Ty Keyes in his first career start was sacked nine times by the Trojans. USM will head to No. 1 Alabama this Saturday.

### SEC

Only two conference games were played this past weekend as No. 11 Florida scared No. 1 Alabama and No. 2 Georgia whipped South Carolina. No. 16 Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, LSU, Tennessee and No. 7 Texas A&M all won non-conference games while No. 23 Auburn fell at No. 6 Penn State and Vandy fell to Stanford. The key SEC game this week will be Texas A&M (3-0) at Arkansas (3-0).

Former Neshoba Central Rocket Jarquez Hunter played well for the Auburn Tigers on national television. He had nine carries for 63 yards and two receptions for 10 yards.

### SWAC

Jackson State (2-1) fell on the road at LA-Monroe, 12-7. The Tigers will host Delta State this Saturday at 2 p.m. Mississippi Valley fell to Stephen F. Austin, 58-13. The Delta Devils (0-2) will be hosting Southern University (1-2) on Sunday. Alcorn (0-3) fell at South Alabama, 28-21. The Braves will play on Thursday at Arkansas-Pine Bluff.

### MC Wins

Mississippi College (1-1) steamrolled over Fort Lauderdale, 63-0, to gain their first win of the season. The Choctaws will host West Alabama (3-0) on Saturday night.

Delta State (2-1, 0-1) lost their Gulf South Conference opener to West Georgia, 27-26. Belhaven (1-2) lost at Hardin-Simmons, 21-16. The Blazers will host Austin College this Saturday. Millsaps (0-2) fell to Southwestern, 38-21, and will host Olivet College this Saturday.

### JUCO

East Mississippi, Gulf Coast and Jones College are the only undefeated football teams in Mississippi junior college play. All three teams improved to 3-0 in claiming their first division wins of the year. East Missis-



# Leake claims district win over Simpson

By **ROBBIE ROBERTSON**  
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After a big win over Union nearly two weeks ago, the Leake Academy Rebels opened district play last week at rival Simpson Academy.

The Rebels fell behind early but scored the last 16 points of the game and shut out the Cougars in the second half to take a 23-14 win over Simpson on Friday night.

Leake improves to 4-1 on the season and will host Park Place on Friday night in another district contest.

Leake coach Brian Pickens said he knew Simpson would give their best shot.

“It was a game that we knew was going to be a physical football game,” Pickens said. “They came out and gave us some things we hadn’t seen them do and scored. We were able to answer their first two scores and that was huge. From there, our defense was lights out. We were able to make our adjustments on defense and were able to weather that storm.”

The Cougars got the ball to open the game and immediately went to marching down the field on the Rebels. The Cougars went 14 plays as Brentley Berry hit Matt Adcock on a 10-yard touchdown pass with 4:44 left in the first quarter to take a 7-0 lead.

The Rebels quickly answered. They went 62 yards

in 10 plays. After a pair of big gainers by Whitt Welch, Rhett Atkinson called his own number on an one-yard touchdown run with 1:19 left in the first quarter. Cole Arthur hit the PAT and Leake tied the score at 7-7.

The Cougars answered right back as Berry hit Sawyer Dunn on a short pass that the wide receiver turned into a 60-yard touchdown on the last play of the first quarter. The PAT was good and Simpson held a 14-7 lead.

After the two teams swapped punts, Leake pulled back even with a quick four-play, 74-yard drive. After Atkinson hit Riley Myers on a 27-yard pass to convert on fourth down, the junior quarterback called his own number and raced 45 yards for a touchdown with 6:54 left in the second quarter. Arthur hit the PAT and Leake tied the game at 14-14.

The Rebels got the ball right back after short punt by Simpson. But the Rebels missed a 36-yard field goal with 4:09 left in the half.

The Cougars went three and out and again had a short punt that went just 10 yards, giving Leake the ball at the Simpson 35. After Atkinson hit Aiden Watkins on a big 28-yard pass, the junior quarterback again called his own number and scored on a 1-yard run with 1:29 left in the half. The PAT failed and Leake held a 20-14 lead at the half.



PHOTO BY KALIE PARKS

Leake Academy’s Canon Parks runs for a first down on Friday night.

The only points of the second half came midway through the fourth quarter. The Rebels put together an 11-play drive and finished off with a 27-yard field goal by Arthur with 8:27 left in the game to give Leake a 23-14 lead.

The Cougars appeared to get another touchdown on the board on an 87-yard pass but it was called back after a block in the back. Simpson still drove down in the Leake red zone but came up short on a fourth-and-12 pass with 4:45 left in the game.

Leake was then able to run the clock out with the help of a roughing the kicker call.

The Rebels had 326 yards of total offense with 236 yards rushing.

Canon Parks led the offense with 123 yards on 24 carries

while Atkinson had 82 yards on nine carries with three TDs. Whitt Welch had 36 yards rushing on eight carries.

Aiden Watkins had 42 yards receiving on two catches while Riley Myers had 28 yards on two catches.

On defense, Bryce Watkins led the Rebels with eight solo tackles and four assists with 2 and a half tackles for loss. Ethan Dunn had five solo tackles and five assists while Nick Gomillion had five solo tackles and four assists. Riley Myers had four solo tackles and four assists while Jake Brown had three solo tackles and two assist. Kade Marble also had two solo tackles and two assists.

The Rebels will return home and host Park Place Friday night in another district contest.

The Crusaders are 3-2 on the season. They opened with a 40-26 win over St. Aloysius and then beat East Rankin 41-8 and Wayne 19-16 last week. They lost 35-34 to Central Hinds and 47-14 to Natchez Cathedral. The two teams didn’t play last year when Park Place was forced to forfeit because of Covid.

“Park Place is a scary team because they have really good skill players,” Pickens said. “Most of those guys have been starting for three years and are really good players. And they are very aggressive on defense and come after you.”

# Yellow Jackets fall to Newton County in ‘Battle of Hwy. 15’

By **BEN LAND**  
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Despite the early concern of impending rain, it turned out to be a beautiful Friday night for football. When the final horn blew the score was, Newton County Cougars 28, Union Yellow Jackets 6.

The first quarter was a defensive battle between the two neighboring teams. At the 2:46 mark in the first quarter, LT. Phillips got the scoring started for the Cougars with a 5-yard touchdown run.

Then, with 1:08 to go in the first quarter Newton County added to their lead. They picked up a fumble and returned it for 27 yards for a touchdown. At the end of the first quarter, the Cougars led 14-0.

The second quarter began and the defensive battle continued. With 4:10 to go in the first half, Union’s Ky’Yon Harris scored an 1-yard touchdown run. The PAT was unsuccessful. So, at halftime of the contest the score was Newton County 14 Union 6.

The second half began with

the kickoff to Newton County. The Cougars marched down the field and concluded the drive with a 5-yard touchdown pass from Grey Hale to Tyron Henderson. The kick was good and the score was 21-6, Newton County in the lead. At the 3:28 mark in the third quarter, Newton County would score once again. Colin Crowder ran for 11 yards. When the dust settled, Crowder had reached the land of milk and honey for the Cougars. The PAT was good and the score at the end of the third quarter was, Newton County 28 Union

6. The final quarter was a carbon copy of the three previous quarters. Newton County dominated in the run and pass. The defensive unit of the Cougars was very effective against the Jackets. Both teams combined for 17 penalties. The Union and Newton County faithful were there to see it all.

The Cougars had 70 yards passing and 148 yards on the ground. The Jackets had 33 passing yards and 103 yards rushing. The leading rusher for the Cougars was LT. Phillips he

had 66 yards. Carlos Hickmon and Ky’Yon Harris combined for 93 rushing yards for the Yellow Jackets.

Newton County quarterback Grey Hale had 70 yards through the air and a touchdown.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Union Yellow Jackets were led by Carlos Hickmon who had 10 tackles, a sack and two tackles for loss. Tank Haralson had five solo tackles; Tristan Wallace had four tackles; Ky’Yon Harris had four tackles and a tackle for loss. Nate Killen and Davarian McDonald each had

three tackles and a tackle for loss. Eli Rigdon continued the Jackets defensive efforts with 2.5 tackles and two solo tackles. William Hughlett had 1.5 tackles and a solo tackle. A. J. Wilson, Germaine Pickens, and Cameron Jackson each had a tackle, a solo tackle and Jackson also had an interception.

On Friday, the Jackets will travel to Ackerman to take on the Choctaw County Chargers. The Cougars will travel to Richland to play the Rangers.

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